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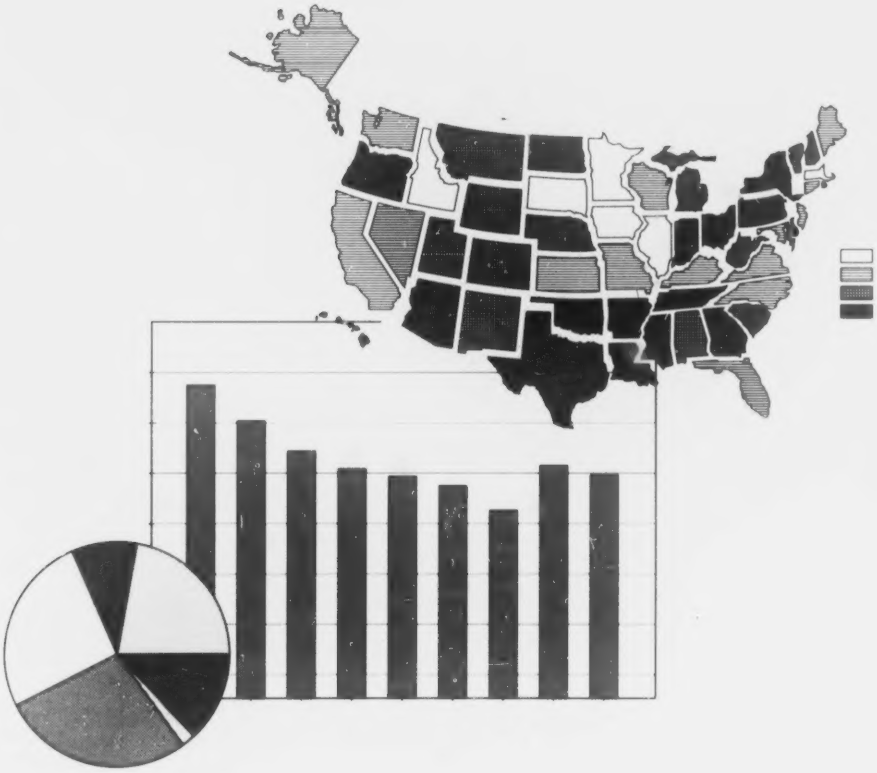
State Court Caseload Statistics:
ANNUAL REPORT 1989



A commentary on State Court Caseloads and Trends in 1989

A joint effort of the Conference of State Court Administrators, the State Justice Institute,
and the National Center for State Courts

State Court Caseload Statistics:
ANNUAL REPORT 1989

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A joint effort of the Conference of State Court Administrators, the State Justice Institute, and the National Center for State Courts' Court Statistics Project

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Steven E. Hairston, *Staff Associate*
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The 11 members of the Conference of State Court Administrators' Court Statistics Committee oversaw the production of this report and established the general direction taken for collecting and reporting state court caseload statistics. Their suggestions, corrections, and comments shaped the report. During 1990, the establishment of the new COSCA Court Technology Committee meant that we lost the contribution to our work provided by Sue Dosal, Mary Campbell McQueen, and Fran Taillefer. However, this report bears the imprint of the standards that they set in previous years as committee members.

The State Justice Institute funded the report's preparation and publication through on-going grant number SJI-90-07X-B-018. SJI's commitment and support is greatly appreciated, as is the input of the project monitor, Kathy Schwartz. It should be noted that points of view expressed in the report are those of the staff of the Court Statistics Project and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the State Justice Institute.

Earlier drafts of the report benefited from the advice and editorial skills of our colleagues Joy Chapper and Roger Hanson. Their research on appellate courts also provided a rich source of information on court procedures and outcomes that offers a counterpoint to the focus in this report on aggregate caseload numbers.

Responsibility for the information reported here and the commentary and analysis of Parts I and II nevertheless rests fully with the Court Statistics Project staff. The more general responsibility for the development of the caseload report series and promoting improvements to court statistics is shared with National Center for State Courts management, working under the policy direction of the COSCA Court Statistics Committee.

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OVERVIEW OF THE REPORT

This report offers a comprehensive picture of the work of state trial and appellate courts in 1989. It is the thirteenth in a series of annual reports on state court caseloads produced jointly by the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC).

Each report is a hybrid of statistics, commentary, and descriptive information about the state courts. To serve as the only regularly updated reference source on state court activity, the reports contain detailed tables of caseload statistics. To allow comparisons to be made among states, the reports provide descriptive information on how states organize and allocate jurisdiction to their courts, how they compile court statistics, and on the size of their judiciaries. To inform the state court community of the main findings, the reports begin with a commentary on court caseloads. To encourage the use of statistical information for addressing contemporary policy issues, the reports feature discussions and analyses of the caseload data that instruct readers in the use of caseload statistics.

The report for 1989 is organized into five parts. The overview describes the contents of the parts and explains how they are interrelated, offers advice on how to use the report, and introduces the NCSC's Court Statistics Project. Because the 1989 report marks a step in the evolution of the series, the overview contains a policy statement on the objectives and methods that guided preparation of this report and will shape future reports.

Contents of the 1989 Report

This report contains a commentary on state court caseloads in 1989; an analysis of how the 1989 experience fits with recent trends; detailed caseload statistics from state trial and appellate courts; guides to court structure and jurisdiction in 1989; and state-by-state explanations of court recordkeeping.

Part I offers a general commentary on trial and appellate caseloads across the country. Highlights include:

- more than 98 million new cases were filed in state courts during 1989
- the rate at which civil cases were filed was broadly similar across the states, but criminal caseloads varied substantially
- many courts experienced difficulties in keeping pace with the inflow of new cases
- the volume of civil and criminal cases that some states currently process in their general jurisdiction courts is as great as the entire U.S. district courts system
- there was moderate caseload growth in both the trial and appellate courts during 1989: trial court civil filings grew by 2.3 percent and criminal filings by 4.7 percent; mandatory appeals grew by 3.7 percent and discretionary petitions by 2.9 percent

Part II offers perspective by placing 1989 in the context of trends since 1984 for major categories of civil and criminal trial court caseloads and appellate caseloads. Major findings include:

- a dramatic rise in the number of criminal cases, which will double over the decade if recent trends continue
- appellate caseload growth that lags behind growth in trial court caseloads since 1984 in most but not all states

Part III contains the detailed caseload statistics. Appellate court caseloads in 1989 are enumerated in the first six tables. Table 1 gives the total caseload for appellate courts for the year and describes the comparability and completeness of the information that is presented. Other tables describe particular types of appellate cases and particular aspects of case processing.

Trial court caseloads in 1989 are detailed in the next six tables. Table 7 shows the total civil and criminal caseload for the state trial courts and the comparability and completeness of the underlying state statistics. Table 8 reviews the total number of cases filed and disposed for each state and individual courts within each state. Other tables describe the civil, criminal, juvenile, and traffic and other ordinance violation caseloads of state trial courts.

The remaining tables describe trends in the volume of case filings and dispositions. Tables 13 and 14 indicate the patterns between 1984-89 for mandatory and discretionary cases in state appellate courts. The trend in felony case filings in state trial courts for the same period is contained in Table 15, and the trend in tort filings for those six years is in Table 16.

All of the tables in Part III are intended as basic reference sources. Each one compiles information from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. In addition, the tables indicate the extent of standardization in the data for each state. The factors that most strongly affect the comparability of caseload information across the states are incorporated into the tables. Footnotes explain how a court system's reported caseloads are related to the standard categories for reporting such information recommended in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*. The user is alerted to three possible circumstances that qualify the validity of the reported number. Caseload numbers are cited if they are incomplete in the types of cases represented, if they are overinclusive, or both. Numbers without footnotes should be interpreted as in compliance with the dictionary's standard definitions.

Part IV represents the overall structure of each state court system in the form of a one-page chart. The charts identify all of the state courts in operation during the year, describe their geographic and subject matter jurisdiction, note the number of authorized judicial posts, indicate whether funding is primarily local or state, and outline the routes of appeal that link the courts.

Part V lists statutes and recordkeeping practices that may affect the comparability of caseload information reported by the courts. Eight figures note, for example, the time period used for court statistical reporting, whether calendar year, fiscal year, or court calendar year; define the method by which cases are counted in appellate courts and in criminal, civil, and juvenile trial court proceedings; and identify trial courts with the authority to hear appeals. The figures define what constitutes a case in each court, making it possible to determine which appellate and trial courts compile caseloads on a similar basis. The most important information in the figures for making comparative use of caseload statistics is repeated in the main caseload tables (Part III).

Appendix A explains the methodology used to collate the information provided by the states into a standard format. This report improves the completeness and accuracy of the information provided as compared to previous editions. The procedural changes responsible for the improvement are described, as are the specific returns in the form of new data and corrections to previously reported caseloads.

Uses of Court Statistics

Caseload statistics are simply counts of the number of cases filed and disposed of by a court and, if available, inventories of the number of cases pending at the beginning and at the end of the reporting period. However, that simple information provides building blocks necessary to construct answers to questions about the state courts. First, it answers basic descriptive questions: How many disputes are the courts asked to resolve? How many of those disputes are in fact decided?

Second, caseload statistics can be used along with the jurisdictional and other information in this report to describe the work and operations of the state courts. Topics that can be addressed include the composition of caseloads at different court levels, the extent of case specialization by particular courts, and the effect of discretionary review on the ability of appellate courts to avoid case backlogs.

Third, caseload statistics offer a basis for determining similarities and differences between state court systems. To what extent are appellate and trial courts in various states processing similar types of cases in similar volumes?

Fourth, caseload statistics for several years can be combined to discern trends. Felony case filings can be traced over time and compared to parallel patterns in case filings for other types of criminal offenses, or to trends in arrests or incarcerations. Trends in the volume of civil litigation can also be monitored and interpreted in the context of tort reform legislation and changing economic patterns.

Caseload statistics are, therefore, important because they are analogous to the financial information that business firms use to organize their operations. Because a court case is the one common unit of measurement available to court managers, caseload statistics provide a basis for describing what courts are currently doing and for predicting what they will do in the future. Moreover, when caseload statistics are complemented by information on caseflow and court resources, the basic information needs of court managers are met.

Caseload statistics are also important because few would claim that the state courts are currently funded at a generous level relative to their needs or to the other branches of state government. State budget offices routinely cast a cold eye on requests for additional judgeships, support staff, or facilities. The executive and legislative branches of government are sophisticated producers and consumers of statistical information. The courts have traditionally lacked such expertise. Therefore, in our fact-obsessed culture the courts are at a disadvantage when justifying claims to needed resources.

The usefulness of information on the combined caseload of state courts becomes obvious in debates on where to draw the jurisdictional boundary between the federal and state court systems. Current controversies include diversity of citizenship in civil matters and drug cases, which the recent *Report of the Federal Courts Study Committee* proposed be transferred out of the federal courts and into the state courts. Further, is there a crisis in the state appellate systems comparable to that the committee found in the federal system?

How to Use the Report

This report is designed to support the above uses. The commentary in Part I is fashioned from material in Parts III, IV, and V. The user's purpose determines the parts to consult first.

Part I should suffice if the report is being used to obtain a general description of the work of the state courts. The methodology in Appendix A should be reviewed, however, before drawing conclusions.

The best route for obtaining information on a specific state or a specific state court is to read Appendix A and then consult the relevant caseload tables in Part III. Detailed information on the status of the information in the specific court or state can be found in footnotes to the tables in Part III, and in Parts IV and V. For example, the total caseload for the trial courts of Virginia can be found in Table 8, Part III. The absence of a footnote indicates that the total conforms to the specifications in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary,* and a code indicates that parking violations are counted as court filings. The court structure chart for Virginia in Part IV describes the subject matter of the cases that compose the total, while the figures in Part V provide details on the basis by which various types of civil and criminal cases are defined.

Differences in the size and composition of court caseloads are influenced by how the states distribute jurisdiction to decide cases and by how states collect and disseminate court statistics. Comparisons among states or courts, therefore, require considerable care. Parts IV and V are essential for determining when like is being compared to like. Appendix A explains the conventions and codes that identify similar courts with similar caseload counts.

The NCSC Court Statistics Project

The NCSC Court Statistics Project was established in 1977 to develop a meaningful profile of the work of the state courts. The caseload report series and other project publications, such as the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary,* seek to encourage uniformity in how courts and state court administrative offices collect and publish caseload information.

The 1989 report, like previous reports, is a joint effort by the Conference of State Court Administrators and the National Center for State Courts. COSCA, through its Court Statistics Committee, oversees the preparation of project publications and provides policy guidance for devising or revising generic reporting categories and procedures. The NCSC provides project staff and support facilities. Preparation of the 1989 report is funded by a grant from the State Justice Institute to the NCSC.

The staff of the Court Statistics Project can provide advice and clarification on the use of the statistics from this and previous caseload reports. Project staff can also provide the full range of information available from each state. The prototype spreadsheets (Appendix C) used by project staff to collect data reflect the full range of information sought from the states. Most states provide far more detailed caseload information than that presented in Part III of this report.

Future Reports

The 1989 volume establishes a new format for the report series. Part I will comment on trial and appellate court caseloads during the year, highlighting similarities and differences among the states. Part II will offer the perspective of recent trends to interpret the year's caseloads. However, the text of both parts will vary from year to year in response to important topics facing the nation's courts. This report features discussion of the composition of civil caseloads; a comparison of the magnitude of the caseloads before federal and state trial courts; the impact of units of count on the comparability of state criminal caseloads; and the distribution of appeals. Parts III, IV, and V will look much the same in future reports. However, improvements to the contents are planned. The classification by Court Statistics Project staff of all caseload statistics are being returned for review and correction by the relevant state authorities. Requests for data note the information that would, if available, make the main caseload categories fit the definitions recommended by COSCA. Appendix A outlines the progress to date in this effort. Court structure charts will be improved by developing a more meaningful classification of appellate jurisdiction. Currently, the description does not differentiate the appellate route followed by those cases, say criminal cases, that are reviewed as a matter of right from the route followed by those cases that are heard at the court's discretion.

The steps outlined above, with the help of court automation and the goodwill shown by state court administrative offices and appellate court clerks, should incrementally improve the accuracy of national caseload statistics and the usefulness of the report series. Some barriers to meaningful comparisons of national totals will remain. For trial courts, differences exist within many states in how cases are counted, classified, and reported to a central office. For appellate courts, differences in the terminology and the level of detail used for compiling statistical reports make it difficult to achieve uniformity even for broad categories of appellate cases. These barriers, however, are far less imposing than those that had to be confronted at the start of the caseload report series. Future reports in the series should, as a result record a succession of improvements to the quantity and quality of the information that can be offered about the work of the state courts.

Comments, suggestions, and corrections from users of the report are encouraged. Questions about and reactions to the report can be sent to:

Director, Court Statistics Project
National Center for State Courts
300 Newport Avenue
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-8798

PART 1

STATE COURT CASELOADS IN 1989

• • • • • • • • • •

> Modern social life has become much too complicated to be perceived by direct observation. Whether it is dangerous to take an airplane, whether one kind of bread is more nourishing than another, what the employment chances are for our children, whether a country is likely to win a war—such issues can only be understood by those who can read statistical tables or get someone to interpret them.
>
> *Paul Lazarfeld*

More than 98 million new cases were filed in state courts during 1989. Mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions to state appellate courts account for 229,000 cases. The remainder are trial court filings: 17.3 million civil cases, 12.5 million criminal cases, 1.4 million juvenile cases, and 67.2 million traffic or other ordinance violation cases.

Civil trial court filings, which encompass torts, contracts, domestic relations, estate and small claims cases, grew by 2.3 percent from the 1988 total. Criminal trial court filings, which include felony and misdemeanor cases, increased by 4.7 percent over the previous year. Rising filing levels also characterized state appellate courts, where filings of mandatory appeals grew by 3.7 percent and discretionary petitions by 2.9 percent.[1]

With more than 98 million new cases, state courts resolve the overwhelming majority of legal disputes. By contrast, 46,486 appeals and petitions were filed in the federal appellate courts during 1989; 4,917 in the U.S. Supreme Court. There were also 223,113 new civil filings and 62,042 new criminal filings during 1989 in the U.S. district courts, the main federal trial courts.[2] Consequently, five times as many appeals and 100 times as many civil and criminal trial court cases were filed in state courts as were filed in federal courts.

The caseload statistics reported here represent the most comprehensive picture available of the number and types of cases reaching trial and appellate courts nationwide. Trial court caseloads are available for all but one state, although statistics for some other states are incomplete, with traffic and ordinance violation cases being the most underreported. Basic filing and disposition data are available for all state appellate courts, although cases cannot always be divided into specific categories.

Plan of Analysis

The primary goal of the Court Statistics Project is to collect and disseminate comparable state court caseload statistics. This report seeks to achieve three intermediate objectives toward that larger goal:

> To present caseload information in a manner that maximizes its comparability across states and describes the work of state court systems during 1989.
>
> To highlight the similarities and differences among the states and, where possible, to relate variation to how states organize their court systems and other state characteristics.
>
> To compile a data series that describes trends in state court caseloads, thus monitoring change over time in state court systems.

Trial courts are examined first. The section initially comments on the quality of available trial court caseload data and references the location of more detailed data available in this volume. The section then identifies caseload patterns for both general and limited jurisdiction trial courts. Variation between states in the rates at which civil, criminal, and juvenile cases were filed and disposed of during 1989 is then reviewed and discussed.

Appellate courts are the topic of the commentary's second section. Following a review of appellate court structure and jurisdiction in 1989, the comparability of appellate court caseload data is discussed and the location of more detailed information elsewhere in this volume noted. The section proceeds to an examination of how the overall appellate court caseload was distributed in 1989. Differences in the rate at which two specific types of cases were filed is the focus: mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions. The section also reviews for both types of cases whether appellate courts in 1989 kept pace with their incoming caseload, and, for discretionary petitions, the percentage that the courts granted. Other subsections tabulate the cases filed that appellate courts will decide on the merits and the number of opinions written during 1989.

---

[1] These increases were recorded despite the fact that the total number of new cases counted in 1989 was slightly less than that reported for 1988. Change percentages are computed using courts with comparable data for the two years. In 1989, the number of caseload totals could not be obtained for the Philadelphia Traffic Court and the Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court, courts in which 1,412,169 cases were filed during 1988.

[2] Filings in the U.S. courts of appeals and the U.S. district courts are from *Want's Federal State Court Directory: 1989 Edition,* Washington, D.C. Want Publishing. Filings in the U.S. Supreme Court are from unpublished statistics provided by the office of the clerk and refer to the 12 months ending September 30, 1988. U.S. district court filings do not include bankruptcy code filings, which are heard by bankruptcy judges, or misdemeanor cases heard by magistrates.

Part I concludes by reiterating the main findings and patterns in order to tie the tables, charts, graphs, and maps reviewed back to the three objectives.

Comparability and Reliability

The commentary in Part I is a synthesis of material from three other parts of the report: the main caseload statistics tables (Part III), the court structure charts (Part IV), and figures describing court jurisdiction and statistical reporting practices (Part V). A working knowledge of factors that affect the comparability of the caseload statistics is necessary before proceeding further. "Comparable" in this report refers to the standard for reporting court caseloads established by the Conference of State Court Administrators, through its Court Statistics Committee, as defined in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*.[3]

Comparability is most often compromised when a count of court cases is either incomplete because some types of cases that should be included are omitted; overinclusive when it contains some types of cases that should not have been included; or the caseload figures are both incomplete and overinclusive. Caseload comparability is also compromised when states use methods for counting cases that artificially inflate or deflate the magnitude of their case filings or case dispositions relative to other states.

"Incomplete" means that types of cases are omitted. For example, the definition of a criminal case found in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* includes the offense of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI/DUI). A general jurisdiction trial court that reaches decisions in such cases but classifies them, for reporting purposes, with traffic violations rather than with criminal cases will have its total criminal caseload footnoted as incomplete.

Conversely, the count of traffic and other ordinance violation cases will be "overinclusive" in that court, since it includes cases that should, according to the standard, be classified as criminal. It is possible for a caseload count to be simultaneously incomplete and overinclusive if the total omits some types of cases and includes others that do not meet the definition.

Comparability is also affected by basic decisions a state or court makes when designing its court records system. One such decision is the "point at which a case is counted." Some appellate courts count the receipt of the "notice of appeal" as the step that initiates the appellate process. Other courts wait until the trial court record is prepared and transmitted to the appellate court before counting a filing, by which time some appeals have been withdrawn, settled, or dismissed, especially in civil cases (see Figure B, Part V (p. 231)).

The "unit of count" is another basic decision when compiling caseload statistics. Trial courts differ in what is counted as a filing. For criminal cases, some courts treat each charge as the unit of count, some count each defendant, and some count charging documents that contain multiple charges and/or multiple defendants. Trial courts also differ on when the count is taken. Counts are taken at an early stage in some courts, such as the filing of the complaint, while in other courts counts are only taken once a case results in an arraignment. These practices are described using a common framework in Figure D, Part V (p. 243) of this report.

Trial courts tend to count civil cases at the filing of an initial petition or complaint with the clerk of court, but practices vary. What constitutes a case may differ by specific case type; for example, courts differ in whether support/custody proceedings are counted as a case filing or as part of the marriage dissolution case. A common framework is used in this report to describe the method of count used in each state trial court system for civil cases generally (Figure H, Part V (p. 262)) and for support/custody cases specifically (Table 9, Part III).

Charts, graphs, and maps summarize caseload and related information from other parts of the report in a comparable manner. However, differences in case volume observed in 1989 reflect many factors, including the constitutions, statutes, court structure and rules, as well as the recordkeeping practices, of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Trial Court Caseloads in 1989

This section begins with a summary of the overall state trial court activity during 1989. It then highlights the distinction between courts of general and limited jurisdiction and reviews the overall completeness and comparability of the caseload data. The section then considers, in turn, civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. The main conclusions are summarized at the end.

Overview

States reported 98,464,561 trial court filings for 1989, a total formed by 17,321,125 civil cases, 12,533,207 criminal cases, 1,463,410 juvenile cases, and 67,146,819 traffic and other ordinance violation cases. **Chart 1** displays filings for each case type as a proportion of the total. Civil filings represented 18 percent of the total, criminal filings 13 percent, and juvenile filings 1 percent. More than two-thirds of the total (68 percent) consisted of traffic/other ordinance violation cases.

Civil and criminal trial court case filings increased during 1989. When the comparison to 1988 filings is restricted to courts that reported relevant data in both

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[3] Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary: 1989 Edition*. Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1989.

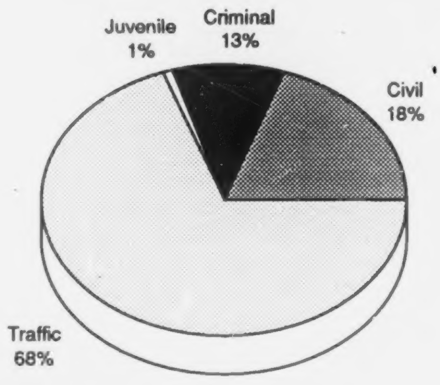

CHART 1: Trial Court Filings, 1989

Total=98,464,561

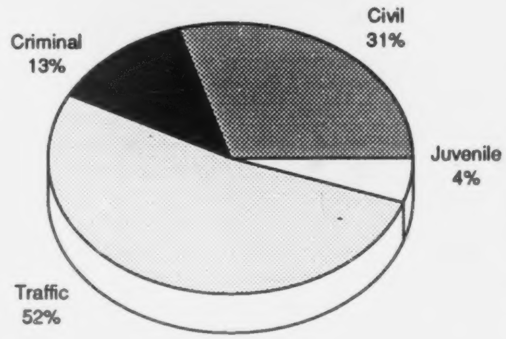

CHART 2: Trial Court Filings in General Jurisdiction Courts, 1989

Total=27,560,870

years, the following changes emerge. Civil filings in general jurisdiction courts grew fractionally by 2.1 percent and civil filings in limited jurisdiction courts by 3.3 percent. Criminal filings in general jurisdiction courts increased by 4.7 percent and criminal filings in limited jurisdiction courts by 4.1 percent.[4]

General and Limited Jurisdiction Courts

General jurisdiction courts are major courts of record from which there is a right of appeal to the state intermediate appellate court (IAC) or court of last resort (COLR). Forty-four states in 1989 also had a lower trial court level, consisting of courts of limited or special jurisdiction. Variously called municipal, district justice, justice of the peace, or magistrate courts, these courts are restricted in the range of cases that they can decide.[5]

There were an estimated 2,449 courts of general jurisdiction and 14,126 courts of limited jurisdiction in 1989. Case filings in those courts were heard by 9,250 judges of general jurisdiction courts and 18,738 magistrates, district justices, and justices of the peace of limited or special jurisdiction courts (Figure G, Part V (p. 259)).

Of the reported total of 98,464,561 court filings, 27,560,870 were in general jurisdiction courts, (28 percent of the total). Despite the incompleteness of the data from some states, the respective roles of general and limited jurisdiction courts emerge from a comparison of the composition of their 1989 filings.

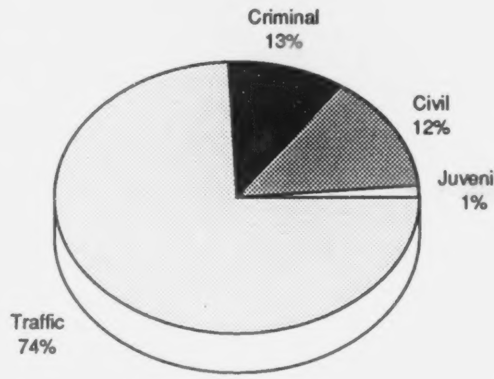

CHART 3: Trial Court Filings in Limited Jurisdiction Courts, 1989

Total=70,903,691

Chart 2 summarizes general jurisdiction court filings in 1989. Civil case filings represented nearly one-third of the total caseload (31 percent), criminal case filings nearly one-eighth (13 percent), and juvenile cases, 4 percent. Traffic/other violation cases represented the majority (52 percent) of all general jurisdiction court filings.

Chart 3 divides the total limited jurisdiction court caseload into the four main case types. Civil and criminal filings each account for nearly equivalent shares of the total, 12 and 13 percent, respectively, while juvenile filings represent 1 percent. The remaining three-fourths (74 percent) of the filings were traffic/ordinance violation cases.

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[4] The U.S. district court during 1989 experienced a 7 percent decline in civil case filings and a 7 percent rise in criminal case filings. Federal statistics are derived from *Want's Federal-State Directory 1991*, pp. 180-181.

[5] The distinction between a limited and general jurisdiction court is basic to understanding patterns in the distribution of trial court caseloads. Part IV summarizes the organization and structure of each court system in 1989 with a one-page chart. The charts identify the courts in operation during the year, describe the subject matter jurisdiction, and outline the routes of appeal that link the courts.

Caseload composition viewed at the national level should be treated with caution. In particular, the role of the general jurisdiction court is obscured because states that only have a general jurisdiction trial court are combined with states that have a second trial court level. The national total also merges data from states that hear juvenile cases in their general jurisdiction courts with data from states that have established a court of specialized (limited) jurisdiction for that purpose.

The composition of general jurisdiction court caseloads is shown more clearly by focusing on states with a two-tier trial court system and ignoring traffic and ordinance violation cases. First, where juvenile cases are heard exclusively in the general jurisdiction court, the composition of case filings in 1989 was 68.8 percent civil, 19.9 percent criminal, and 11.3 percent juvenile.[6] Second, where juvenile cases are heard in courts of special jurisdiction, the 1989 case filings were 65.1 percent civil and 34.9 percent criminal.[7] Whether a case is filed in the general jurisdiction or in the special juvenile court often is primarily determined by the age of the defendant, based on statute provisions that vary among the states in ways that will be discussed in the subsection on juvenile filings.

Completeness and Comparability of Data

As a national total, the reported 98 million trial court cases is incomplete. The deficiency is mainly for traffic/other ordinance violation filings. Only 15 states and the District of Columbia reported complete (although at times overinclusive) data on their traffic/other violation caseloads.

Mississippi is the only state that did not report 1989 trial court caseload data. The completeness of civil and criminal caseload data from the other 49 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico is outlined in Table 7, Part III (p. 99). Other tables in Part III display the number of case filings and case dispositions for the four main trial court case types, noting instances where court statistics are incomplete, overinclusive, or simultaneously incomplete and overinclusive: total civil caseloads, Table 9; total criminal caseloads, Table 10; total traffic/other ordinance violation caseloads, Table 11; and total juvenile caseloads, Table 12. The sum of all four case types, by court and by state, is presented in Table 8.

State trial court systems are diverse in structure and in the division of jurisdiction among courts and between the two levels of courts. Differences in court structure and jurisdiction can be important for understanding the comparability and completeness of caseload data from a state. Before examining and comparing state filing rates and clearance rates, it is also useful to highlight some important dimensions on which state trial court systems differ.

The conventional wisdom of court reform stresses the virtues of consolidation. In trial courts, one dimension on which this is manifest is uniformity and simplicity of jurisdiction. Uniform jurisdiction means that all trial courts at each level have identical authority to decide cases. Simple jurisdiction means that the allocation of subject matter jurisdiction does not overlap between levels.[8] The degree of consolidation of trial court structure offers a related basis for classification, indexing the extent to which states have merged limited and special jurisdiction courts. **Map 1** summarizes the differences present in court structure during 1989. Four types of structure are identified:

(1) Unified: Six states (Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and South Dakota) and the District of Columbia have consolidated their trial courts into a single court with jurisdiction over all cases and proceedings.

(2) Mainly Consolidated: Fifteen states with two court levels, but in which all limited jurisdiction courts have uniform jurisdiction.

(3) Mixed: Fifteen states with two court levels that overlap in their jurisdiction.

(4) Complex: Fourteen states in which there are several general jurisdiction courts and/or a multiplicity of limited jurisdiction courts that overlap in jurisdiction both with other courts at the same level and with courts at the general jurisdiction level.[9]

Reference to the court structure charts in Part IV testifies to the varying degrees of complexity that distinguish the four types of court structure.

The Composition of Trial Court Caseloads in 1989

A more in-depth analysis of civil, criminal, and juvenile cases follows, including consideration of the relative use of general and limited jurisdiction courts, filing rates per 100,000 population, and clearance rates. The composition of civil caseloads, problems of comparison attributable to differences in criminal units of count, and the

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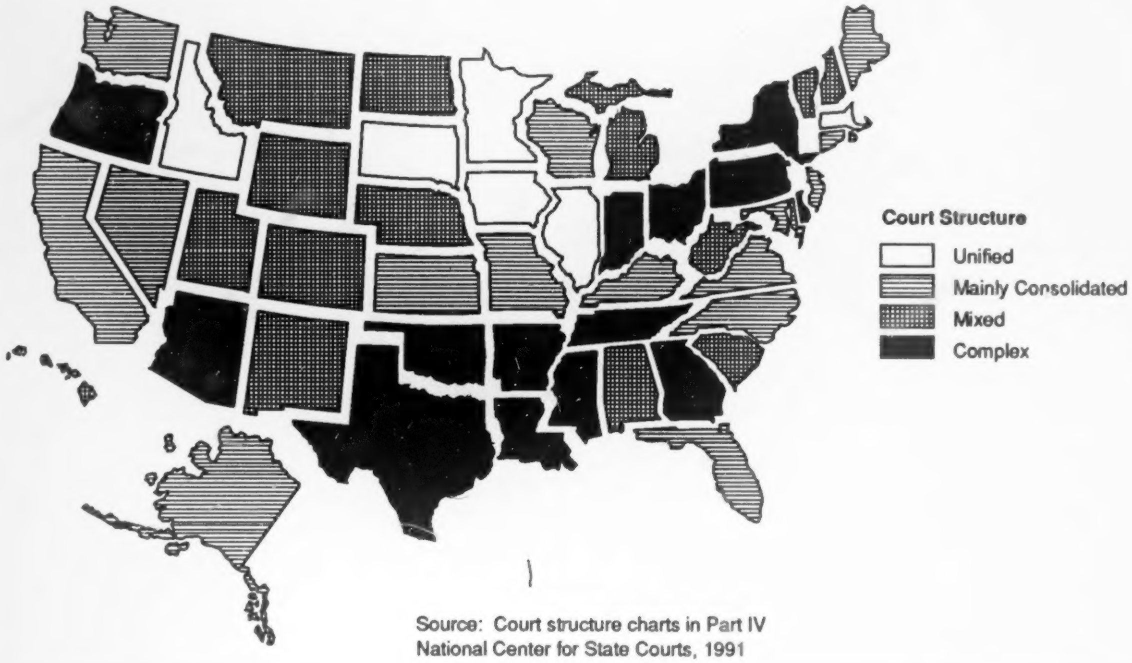
[6] This is based on data from four states: Arizona, California, Florida, and New Mexico. Percentages were derived by combining unweighted case filings.

[7] This is based on data from three states: Arkansas, Michigan, and North Carolina. Percentages were derived by combining unweighted case filings.

[8] The "conventional wisdom" is that articulated by the American Bar Association in its *Standards Relating to Court Organization*, Chicago: ABA, 1974, pp. 1-10.

[9] States are assigned to categories based on information contained in David Rottman, Robert Roper, and Dixie Knoebel, *State Court Organization 1987*, Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1988. An earlier topology of state court systems based on the number of courts and the allocation of jurisdiction among the courts can be found in Henry R. Glick, "State court systems," pp. 862-700 in R. Janosik (ed.) *The Encyclopedia of the American Judicial System*, New York: Scribners, 1987, p. 688.

MAP 1: Trial Court Structure, 1989



Source: Court structure charts in Part IV
National Center for State Courts, 1991

caseload implications of changes in federal/state court jurisdiction are also highlighted.

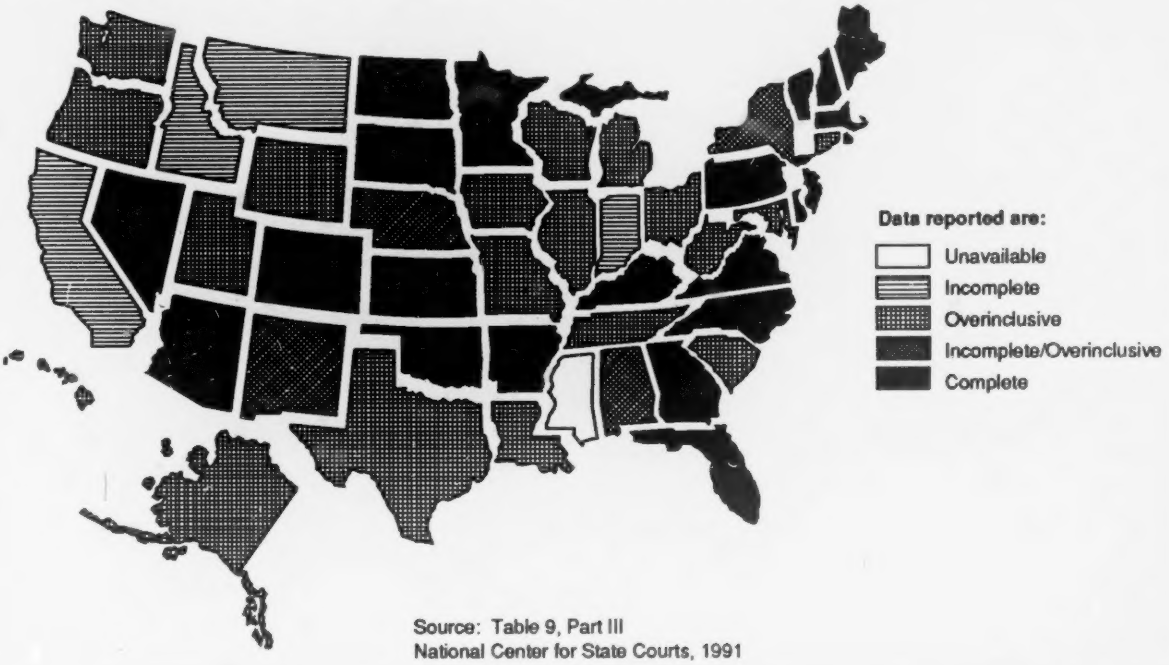
CIVIL FILINGS IN 1989. States reported the filing of 17,321,125 civil cases in 1989. A civil case is a request for the enforcement or protection of a right, or the redress or prevention of a wrong. To meet the definition recommended by the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary,* the category includes all torts, contracts, real property rights, small claims, domestic relations, mental health, and estate cases over which the court has jurisdiction. It also includes all appeals of administrative agency decisions filed in the court and appeals to general jurisdiction courts of decisions by limited jurisdiction trial courts in civil cases. A review of the footnotes to Table 9, Part III (p. 111), indicates the degree to which states report data conforming to the recommended definition. **Map 2** summarizes the impact of the footnotes on the comparability of the general jurisdiction court filing data reported by the states.

Graph 1 displays the total civil case filings in 33 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The range is from 3,801 filings per 100,000 population in Puerto Rico to 24,164 in the District of Columbia. Vermont has the median filing rate of 6,309. The magnitude of the range is deceptive. Most states report filing rates clustered near the median. Minnesota has the second lowest filing rate of 4,781 per 100,000 population, a rate only 26 percent below the median. At the top of the range, the filing rate for Virginia is three times greater than the median. But Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Delaware clearly stand apart from the other jurisdictions included in the graph. New Hampshire, with the fourth highest filing rate, reported 8,877 filings per 100,000 population—41 percent above the median.

Reported civil caseloads are affected by the point at which filings are counted, whether reopened cases are treated as new filings, and the manner in which support/custody proceedings are incorporated into court statistics on marriage dissolution cases. Figure H, Part V (p. 262), details the method by which each court counts civil cases and Table 9, Part III (p. 111), details the method by which support/custody cases are counted.

Different approaches to counting civil and especially support/custody caseloads affect the ranking of states in Graph 1. The limited jurisdiction court in Virginia, the district court, regards all reopened civil cases as new filings, counts support/custody proceedings as separate filings, and enters changes to a marriage decree as a case commenced. Most states, and the general jurisdiction court in Virginia, the circuit court, do not count reopened civil cases as new filings and count support/custody proceedings as part of the original marriage dissolution filing unless issues are involved that arise at a later point in time or as a post-decree action. Because the method of count varies between the general and limited jurisdiction courts in Virginia, the allocation of subject matter jurisdiction is also relevant. The circuit court in Virginia has exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction, with the exception of support/custody cases, which can be heard in the district court. Thus, the relatively high

MAP 2: Comparability of Civil Filing Data in General Jurisdiction Courts, 1989



Source: Table 9, Part III
National Center for State Courts, 1991

rate of civil filings in Virginia, and the atypical concentration of civil cases in the state's limited jurisdiction court, is attributable, in part, to choices made when the state's court recordkeeping procedures were designed.

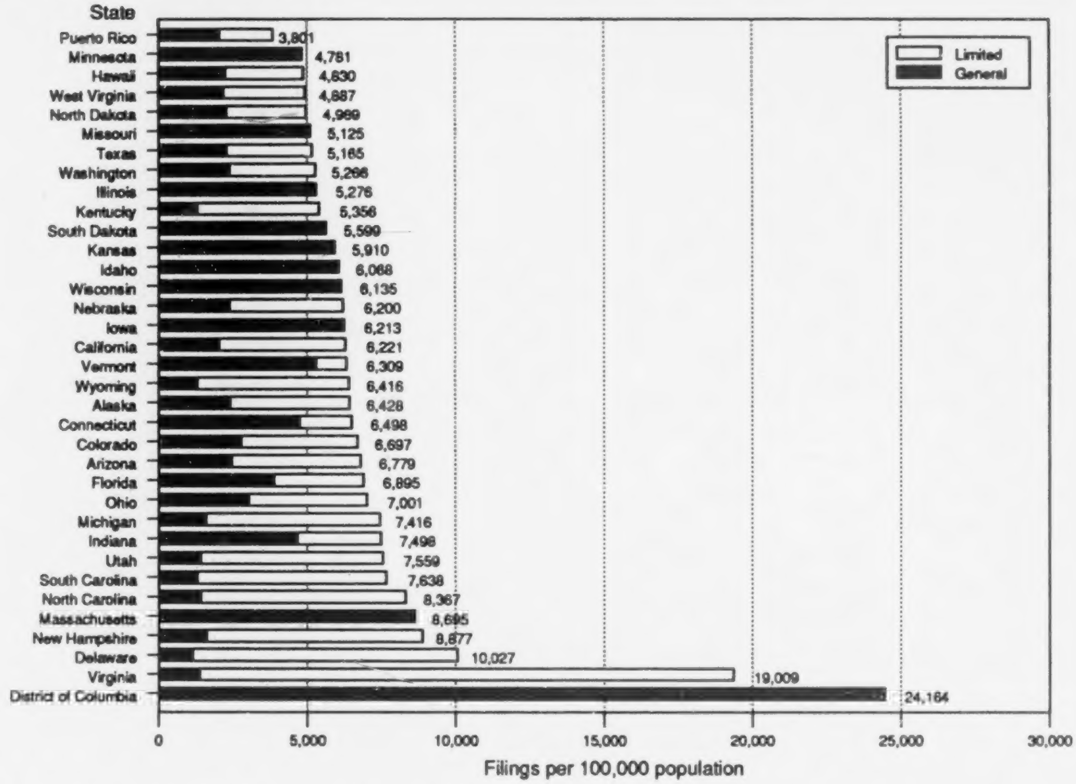
Courts hearing child support/custody cases in Florida, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming also count cases in a way that tends to inflate their total civil filing rate relative to other states. On balance, however, a uniform method of counting might rearrange the order in which states are found in Graph 1, but it is unlikely that the change would be significant.

As was noted for Virginia, differences in counting practices between courts of general and limited jurisdiction in a state are liable to influence the calculation of the share of the civil caseload heard at each court level. Moving beyond differences in the method of count, differences in the allocation of subject matter jurisdiction between court levels strongly influences the percentage of cases that are heard at one level or the other. Delaware is an example. While the overall high civil filing rate found in that state may reflect the state's popularity among companies seeking a jurisdiction in which to register as a corporation, Delaware is distinctive in having five separate limited jurisdiction courts with the authority to hear civil cases, including the family court, which has exclusive jurisdiction over domestic relations cases. Fewer than one of every eight civil cases in Delaware is filed in one of the state's two general jurisdiction court systems. Delaware's combination of a high filing rate and multiple limited civil jurisdiction courts is consistent with the general observation that states with high total civil filing rates have allocated substantial relevant subject matter jurisdiction to lower level courts. However, even here there is an exception. Massachusetts, with a unified trial court system, has among the highest state filing rate: 8,695 per 100,000 population.

There is some evidence linking the size of the civil court filing rate in a state to the appellate filing rate. Of the ten states with the highest total appellate filings per 100,000 population (Graph 4, p. 26), seven are also included in Graph 1 and are all at or above the median civil filing rate (Vermont, Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Ohio, Michigan, and the District of Columbia). In fact, the District of Columbia reports the highest levels for both rates. There are, however, a number of exceptions to the link between civil and appellate filing rates. For example, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and South Carolina have among the highest civil case filings per 100,000 population but among the lowest appellate filing rates per 100,000 population.

Clearance Rates for Civil Cases. Trial courts reduced the size of their pending civil caseload if they disposed of more civil cases during 1989 (cases that may have been filed in previous years) than were filed. **Text Table 1** abstracts the relevant information from Table 9, Part III (p. 111), to present clearance rates for general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts with the authority to hear civil cases. The two court levels are shown separately, with courts listed from lowest to highest *statewide* civil clearance rate.

GRAPH 1: Civil Case Filings per 100,000 Population in State Trial Courts, 1989



The following states are not included: AL, AR, GA, LA, ME, MD, MS, MT, NV, NJ, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN.

Forty-three courts of general jurisdiction and 20 courts of limited jurisdiction are included in Text Table 1. Most states ended 1989 with a larger pending caseload than had been present at the start of the reporting year. Looking first at courts of general jurisdiction, only 12 of the 43 courts reported clearance rates of 100 percent or greater. The courts of Oklahoma reported the largest clearance rate: 108.7 percent. With the exception of Arkansas (108.3 percent) and Wyoming (107.2 percent), the other states that disposed of more cases than were filed did not significantly reduce the size of their pending caseloads. The general jurisdiction court systems of an additional 17 states reported clearance rates of between 95 and 100 percent. Ten courts reported clearance rates falling between 90 and 95 percent, while four of the 43 states reported clearance rates of less than 90 percent, with the 81.8 percent in Maryland marking the lowest reported rate for that year.

To address the question of whether the findings for 1989 reflect short-term or long-term problems of the state courts, Text Table 1 includes the clearance rates of the general and limited jurisdiction courts of each state recorded in 1988, as well as the change between the two years. Clearance rates are similar in the two years for most general jurisdiction courts. Overall, however, courts lost ground in 1989, with 18 declining clearance rates and 13 increasing rates; in the remaining eight court systems there was no real change (1988 rates are unavailable for four states).

Clearance rates can be calculated for the limited jurisdiction courts of 20 states. Courts in four states reported clearance rates of 100 percent or greater. The highest rate was 107.5 percent, recorded in Texas. In ten states, the clearance rate was between 95 and 100 percent, and in a further three it was between 90 and 95. Limited jurisdiction courts in three states—California, Vermont, and Washington—reported lower clearance rates. The court systems of California and Washington also reported the lowest rates in 1987 and 1988. Overall, the pattern at both court levels is to experience declining clearance rates during a period of moderately expanding caseloads, suggesting that long-term rather than short-term factors underlie the difficulty in keeping pace with the flow of new cases.

It remains the case that most courts at both levels failed to keep pace with the flow of new case filings. Most, therefore, ended 1989 with a larger pending caseload than had been present at the start of the year.

TEXT TABLE 1: Trial Court Clearance Rates for Civil Cases, 1989

State	General Jurisdiction Courts 1989	1988	Difference
Maryland	81.8	86.8	-5.0
Florida	82.5	85.6	-3.1
Utah	85.1	76.3	8.8
California	89.1	87.5	1.6
Delaware	90.1	90.1	0
Tennessee	90.2		
Washington	90.9	86.6	4.3
Puerto Rico	91.9	101.1	-9.2
North Carolina	92.3	93.5	-1.2
West Virginia	92.3	95.7	-3.3
Missouri	93.2		
New Hampshire	93.3	88.1	5.1
Kentucky	93.3	97.9	-4.6
Pennsylvania	93.7	98.5	-4.8
Virginia	95.0	95.9	-.9
Minnesota	95.1	100.8	-5.6
Maine	95.4	93.0	2.3
Alaska	96.1	92.4	3.6
Alabama	96.1	100.0	-3.9
New Jersey	96.3	99.6	-3.3
Illinois	97.0	91.7	5.3
New York	97.5	108.1	-10.6
Indiana	97.8	98.2	-.4
Vermont	98.0	99.9	-1.9
North Dakota	98.3	98.8	-.4
Rhode Island	98.8	98.3	.5
Nebraska	98.9	100.7	-1.8
Idaho	99.3	100.5	-1.2
Hawaii	99.5	86.0	13.6
Ohio	99.6	99.7	-.2
Kansas	99.7	99.5	.3
Wisconsin	100.2	101.2	-1.0
South Carolina	100.8	97.2	3.6
Colorado	101.1	102.3	-1.2
New Mexico	101.3	104.6	-3.3
Texas	101.7	96.8	4.9
Oregon	101.9		
Arizona	102.4		
Michigan	102.9	104.3	-1.4
District of Columbia	103.4	101.1	2.3
Wyoming	107.2	120.1	-13.0
Arkansas	108.3	100.4	7.9
Oklahoma	108.7	94.9	13.8

State	Limited Jurisdiction Courts 1989	1988	Difference
California	74.7	74.1	.6
Washington	76.3	76.8	-.5
Vermont	88.2	93.3	-5.1
Kentucky	90.8	93.2	-2.4
Hawaii	92.3	91.3	1.0
North Dakota	92.5	91.5	1.0
Florida	95.0	91.6	3.4
Nebraska	96.2	98.9	-2.7
Arizona	96.4	93.9	2.5
Indiana	96.9	93.2	3.6
North Carolina	96.9	95.8	1.2
Colorado	98.2	102.9	-4.7
South Carolina	98.2	102.9	-4.7
Puerto Rico	98.2	93.0	5.2
West Virginia	98.4	96.4	2.0
Delaware	99.0	102.6	-3.6
Virginia	101.2	100.9	.4
Alaska	101.3	77.8	23.6
Ohio	101.9	102.8	-.9
Texas	107.5	93.1	14.4

Note: A blank space indicates that a calculation is inappropriate for that year.

Source: Table 9, Part III

National Center for State Courts, 1991

The Composition of Civil Caseloads in 1989. Does the broad similarity in the rate at which civil cases are filed per 100,000 population imply that similar types of cases are before the different state courts? States structure their court systems in ways that are likely to affect caseload composition, as evident, for example, in the different procedures instituted for processing simple disputes involving relatively small sums of money and statutes governing the dissolution of marriages. Divergent economic bases may also result in some types of cases being more prevalent. Finally, how states collect court statistics will affect the relative prominence of specific civil case categories in the total civil caseload.

Text Table 2 looks at the composition of civil caseloads for five representative states. Differences between states are more prominent than similarities. The percentage of civil cases filed through small claims proceedings is one strong point of contrast. Small claims refer to the dollar amount at issue and can draw in tort, contract, and real property rights cases. Consequently, the upper bound for such cases—which in 1989 ranged from $300 (Arkansas) to $10,000 (Tennessee)—will have an impact on the proportion of cases filed as small claims (see Figure C, Part V).

Connecticut and Kansas both set $1,000 as the limit for a small claims case. Yet, 30 percent of Connecticut's caseload and 13 percent of Kansas's are filed as small claims. Claims filed under the Kansas Code of Civil Procedure for Limited Actions (Chapter 61 cases), an alternative procedure for filing civil cases involving $5,000

TEXT TABLE 2: Composition of Civil Caseloads: Five States

Case Type	Connecticut	Florida	Kansas	Minnesota	North Dakota
Tort	8 %	11 %	3 %	5 %	2 %
Contract	13	9	41	4	22
Real Property	9	20	11	14	5
Domestic Relations	14	28	20	22	36
Estate	23	8	9	7	11
Mental Health	2	2	3	1	4
Small Claims	30	23	13	46	20
TOTAL	**100 %**	**100 %**	**100 %**	**100 %**	**100 %**
Filings per 100,000 population	6,498	6,895	5,910	4,781	4,969
Maximum small claims dollar amount	$1,000	$2,500	$1,000	$2,000	$2,000

or less in Kansas, accounts for more than half (55 percent) of all civil cases and 16.2 percent of all torts, 86.1 percent of all contract cases, and 70.8 percent of all real property rights cases.[10] Small claims account for about one-fifth of the civil caseloads in Florida and North Dakota. Minnesota's Conciliation Division, which handles cases of $2,000 or less, represents 46 percent of the civil caseload.

Domestic relations cases form the largest caseload category in North Dakota (36 percent) and Florida (28 percent) and the second largest category in Kansas and Minnesota. The Florida percentage is inflated somewhat relative to the other four states being examined because child support/custody is counted as a separate case in addition to the marriage dissolution proceedings from which they arise.

Contract cases vary as a percent of the caseload in the five states. In Kansas, 41 percent of all civil cases involve contract disputes. Although distinguishing a tort from a contract case—for example, landlord and tenant disputes—can be difficult, the Kansas data collection forms make the distinction clear and the state has carefully monitored tort case outcomes for some years. Therefore, the prevalence of contract cases is not just an artifact of how civil cases are categorized in the state.

Tort cases, other than those filed as small claims, form a relatively small component of total civil caseload. Still, in Florida torts account for 11 percent of all civil cases and in Connecticut for 8 percent. Estate cases represent nearly one-quarter of civil cases in Connecticut, the one state of the five with a separate probate court.

In sum, small claims procedures attract a substantial share of state civil caseloads. Domestic relations tend to represent another substantial caseload category, but in some states these cases are overshadowed by contract or estate cases. Differences are stronger than similarities when caseload composition is compared, testifying to the diversity of court systems among the states.

CRIMINAL FILINGS IN 1989. States reported 12,533,207 new criminal case filings in 1989, 28.5 percent in courts of general jurisdiction. Case filing data from Mississippi and Nevada were not available for 1989 and the caseload data reported by courts in many states either included other case types, particularly ordinance violations, or omitted case types that should be included, particularly DWI/DUI cases. **Map 3** summarizes the impact this had on the general jurisdiction court data reported by each state. Generally, criminal case filing statistics are compiled less consistently than those describing civil caseloads.

The *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* defines a criminal case as one in which a defendant is charged with the violation of a state law. Subcategories of criminal cases include felonies, misdemeanors, driving while intoxicated (DWI/DUI), and appeals of trial court cases. Felonies that can be tried to completion in the court in which they are filed are distinguished from felony cases that must be bound over for trial to another court. Limited jurisdiction courts in most states hold preliminary hearings for felony cases and in 26 states can dismiss a felony case; however, such courts can sentence convicted felons in only six states (Alabama, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Rhode Island, and South Carolina).[11] Filings of felony cases in limited jurisdiction courts for the purpose of conducting preliminary hearings are not added to the state criminal caseload if the result is a defendant being bound over for trial in another court. Such cases are thus only counted once, as a filing in the court of general jurisdiction.

Graph 2 displays the total criminal filings per 100,000 population for states that report data from all courts with

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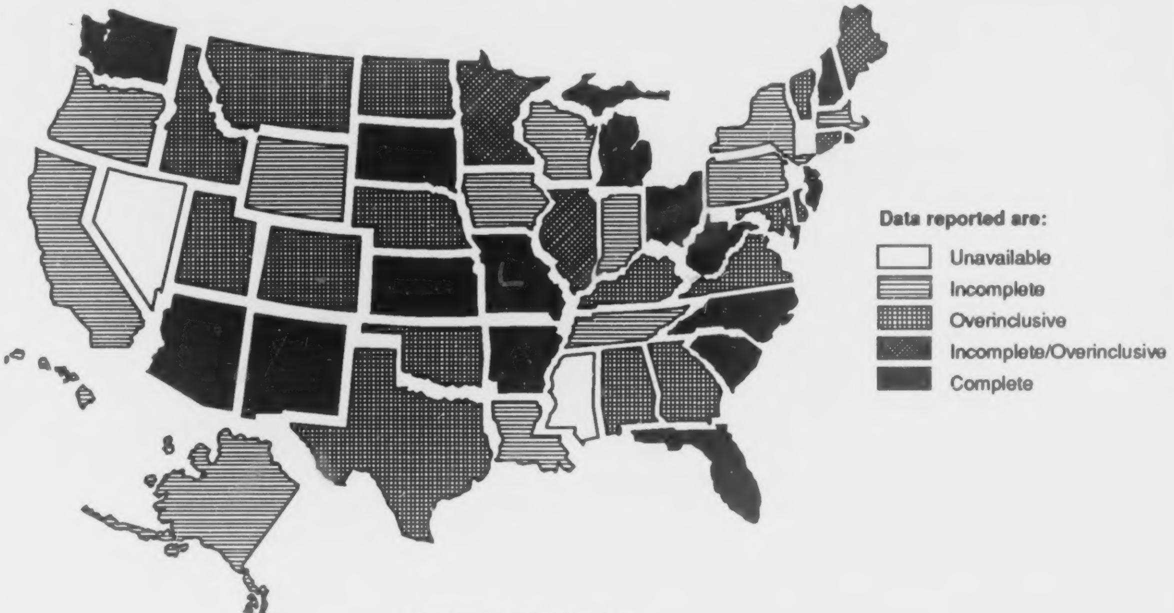
[10] Office of Judicial Administration, *Annual Report of the Courts of Kansas: 1988-89 Fiscal Year*, pp. 3-4.

[11] D. Rottman, R. Roper, and D. Knoebel, *State Court Organization 1987*. Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1988, Table 16, pp.221-239.

MAP 3: Comparability of Criminal Filing Data in General Jurisdiction Courts, 1989



Source: Table 10, Part III
National Center for State Courts, 1991

relevant subject matter jurisdiction.[12] Thirty-four states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico are included. Reference to the footnotes to the statistics in Table 10, Part III (p. 120), indicates why the remaining states were excluded and the extent to which the caseload for a state at either the general or limited jurisdiction level is incomplete or overinclusive.

The size of state criminal caseloads varies considerably. Rates per 100,000 population in 1989 range from a low of 1,661 reported by Kansas to a high of 17,780 reported by Delaware. The same states defined the lower and upper bounds of the range in 1986, 1987, and 1988. The median filing rate is 4,951. The consistency in criminal filing rates between 1988 and 1989 at either extreme is quite noticeable. Seven jurisdictions report distinctively low rates of criminal filings: Kansas, Iowa, Colorado, Oklahoma, Missouri, Puerto Rico, and Michigan. The same seven jurisdictions also had the lowest filing rates in 1988.

Rates that substantially exceeded the median are found in five states that reported more than 8,000 filings per 100,000 population: Arizona, Virginia, Texas, North Carolina, and Delaware. Those states occupied the high end of the graph in 1987 and 1988 as well.

The nearly ten-fold difference from lowest to highest rate and the dispersion around the median contrast sharply with the consistency found for state civil filing rates. Variation among the states in crime rates and prosecutorial practices explain part of that variation. However, differences in how and when criminal cases are counted also affect the filing rates per 100,000 population.

The ranking of states on Graph 2 (particularly at either extreme) is influenced by the unit of count and the point at which the count is taken in compiling court statistics. Figure D, Part V (p. 243), describes, and Table 10, Part III (p. 120), summarizes, the practice in each court with criminal jurisdiction.

States and trial court systems within states have adopted different bases by which criminal cases are counted. The impact of such variation is considerable. Some states take the count of filings at an early stage in the process, typically the filing of a complaint, information, or indictment; other states only count a case as filed when the defendant enters a plea. The unit of count is defined by (a) whether the filing document contains charges against only an individual defendant or if two or more defendants can be included in one filing, and (b) whether the count is taken by charge or charging documents that contain one charge, one incident, or multiple

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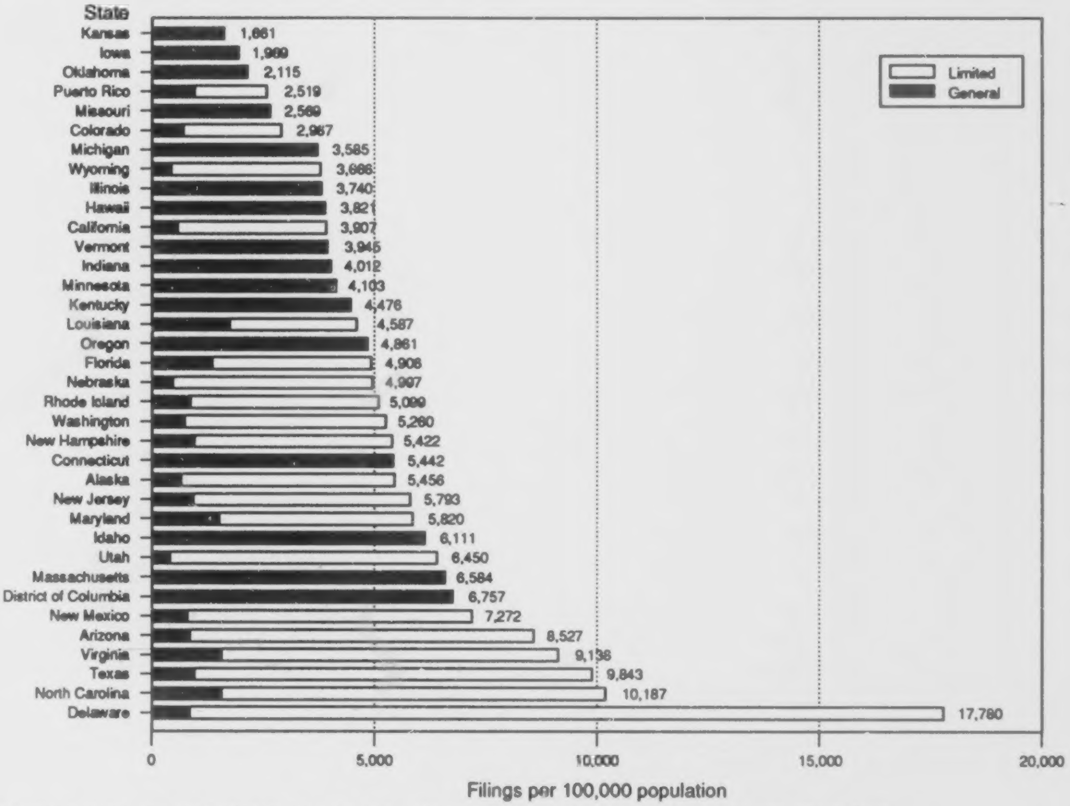
[12] Filing rates in Table 10, Part III, are computed on the basis of state adult population, the practice in previous caseload statistics reports. Graph 2, however, uses total population to derive filing rates, thus facilitating comparisons to the size and ranking of state civil filing rates.

GRAPH 2: Criminal Filings per 100,000 Population in State Trial Courts, 1989



The following states are not included: AL, AR, GA, ME, MS, MT, NV, NY, ND, OH, PA, SC, SD, TN, WV, WI.

incidents. The number of defendants per case and the number of charges per charging document will also affect the number of cases reported as filed during a year.[13]

Consideration of the unit of count and point of filing used to compile the statistics explains, in part, the ranking of individual states on Graph 2. The state with the lowest filing rate, Kansas, counts filings when the defendant enters a plea, a point later than the filing of the information or indictment used by most states. Hawaii (in the district court) is the only other state following that practice; it, too, has a relatively low filing rate. By contrast, Delaware (in its courts of limited jurisdiction, with the exception of the family court) and Virginia, states with high filing rates, tend to count each charge against each defendant as a separate filing. Hawaii is an example of a state that counts charges but has a relatively low filing rate, but its use of a later than typical point for taking that count may compensate for the effect of counting charges rather than incidents.[14] Other states count co-defendants charged with the same crime as a single case. That practice will tend to understate the filing rate relative to states basing their count on defendants. The ranking of Missouri, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, and Wyoming among the states with the lowest filing rates may reflect their use of a unit of count that groups defendants into a single case for statistical reporting purposes.

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[13] A 1985 Directory Survey of General Jurisdiction Courts, carried out by the U.S. Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Justice Statistics, found that 80 percent of the courts based their felony count on defendants and that 75 percent of convicted defendants were convicted on one charge. The survey also suggests substantial variation among individual courts within a state and identified counties that use more than one unit of count when compiling their criminal caseload data.

[14] The high rate of criminal filings recorded in Delaware, however, meshes with that state's rate of prison sentences per 100,000 population, which is one of the highest in the nation. In 1989, Delaware reported 344 sentences of imprisonment per 100,000 resident population, the seventh highest rate among the states. Lawrence Greenfield, *Prisoners in 1989*. Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1990, p. 2. Problems of comparability exist, however, for prison incarceration rates as well as filing rates, with the Delaware statistics including both jail and prison inmates.

Thirteen of the states listed in Graph 2 adhere to the unit of count recommended in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary:* "count each defendant and all of the charges involved in a single incident as a single criminal case." A further five states count each defendant but merge multiple incidents into the same case. The practical impact of this on comparability among states is slight, since only a small proportion of defendants will face charges arising out of separate incidents. A simple test of how the unit of count affects the ranking of state criminal case filing rates can be made by looking where these 18 states are found in the 1989 ranking. Six are found in the bottom third of the ranking, six in the middle third, and six in the top third. This provides some reassurance that the underlying ranking of states has a meaning independent of the unit of count.

For some states, it is difficult to estimate the impact of the unit of count when filing rates are viewed comparatively. This occurs when the units of count are different at the general jurisdiction than at the limited jurisdiction level. It also occurs in states where the local prosecutor decides how cases will be counted. Then some districts or circuits will report counts based on charges, while others will draw up reports based on statistics describing indictments that may contain multiple charges. The absence of a standard unit of count within a state not only creates more difficulties for intrastate comparisons but it also complicates any interpretation of the filing rates shown in Graph 2.

Thus, some of the variation found in Graph 2 is attributable to the impact of differences in how courts maintain statistical records, rather than to differences among states in crime rates or in the propensity to prosecute. State rankings also reflect the status of ordinance violation cases, which the definition of a criminal case excludes from the count of a state's total criminal caseload.[15] The courts of Delaware and Virginia, two states with high filing rates, include some ordinance violation cases in their criminal caseloads. However, other states for which that is true—New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Vermont—are interspersed throughout the ranking shown in Graph 2.

There is little evidence linking the rate of criminal trial court filings in a state to the rate of appellate filings. Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico, and the District of Columbia report high rates of both appeals (see Graph 4) and criminal filings, while Massachusetts and North Carolina report relatively high rates of criminal filings and low rates of appeals.

There is stronger evidence suggesting that some states have consistently high or low filing rates for civil and criminal cases. Civil filings in the District of Columbia, Delaware, Massachusetts, and Utah were far higher than the median rate at which most states clustered. All four jurisdictions reported relatively high criminal filing rates. Hawaii, Illinois, Missouri, and Puerto Rico reported low filing rates for both civil and criminal filings.

Clearance Rates for Criminal Cases. **Text Table 3** summarizes the information on clearance rates available from Table 10, Part III. Clearance rates are shown for the general jurisdiction courts of 40 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Of these, five reported clearance rates greater than 100 percent: Nebraska (100.2 percent), Kansas (105.4 percent), Illinois (122.9 percent), Montana (123.5 percent), and Utah (123.9 percent). Fourteen jurisdictions, including the District of Columbia, reported clearance rates in the 95-100 percent range, with Ohio, Rhode Island, West Virginia, and Wyoming fractionally below 100 percent. Rates in the 90-95 percent range were recorded in 12 states and Puerto Rico. Ten states reported clearance rates of lower than 90 percent, with South Carolina reporting the lowest clearance rate—72.5 percent. Thus, during 1989, only one state in ten managed to keep pace with the flow of new case filings, the remainder adding to the inventory of cases pending before their general jurisdiction trial courts. One state in four added a substantial block of cases.

Limited jurisdiction courts, which in most states hear and decide the bulk of criminal caseloads (Table 10, Part III, (p. 120)), were no more successful in coping with the flow of new cases. In two of the 24 states included in Text Table 3, the clearance rate exceeded 100 percent. Seven states were in the 95-100 percent range and eight in the 90-95 percent range. Seven of the 24 states reported limited jurisdiction court clearance rates of less than 90 percent.

Low clearance rates are perhaps to be expected in a year that saw criminal case filings rising at a more rapid rate than other major case types. The greater success courts experienced keeping pace with new civil filings is doubtlessly in large measure a reflection of the cushion provided by relatively stable caseload volume. Still, the pool of pending cases awaiting disposition by the courts continues to rise, and that in itself points to problems that merit concern and corrective action. Criminal cases are subject to more stringent time standards for case processing than are civil cases. Directing additional resources to the backlog of criminal cases is one solution, but it may simply displace the problem by imposing delay on civil litigants who want and are entitled to court adjudication of their disputes.

One index of the severity of the problem confronting trial courts is the extent to which 1989 clearance rates compare to those recorded in the previous year. Among general jurisdiction courts, 20 reported lower rates in 1989 than in 1988 and 14 reported higher rates. The clearance rates for the general jurisdiction courts of five states were essentially unchanged. Among limited jurisdiction courts, the change was more evenly divided between increases and decreases: 11 states showed a decrease and eight an increase. Three were unchanged.

The downward shifts at both court levels tended to be more substantial than shifts toward higher, improved clearance rates. The overall impression is of statewide court systems facing considerable difficulty in responding to the growth in criminal filings.

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[15] See *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary, 1989.*

TEXT TABLE 3: Trial Court Clearance Rates for Criminal Cases, 1989

	General Jurisdiction Courts		
State	1989	1988	Difference
South Carolina	72.5	91.3	-18.8
Hawaii	73.9	53.4	20.5
Tennessee	83.2		
Maryland	86.4	89.8	-3.4
Kentucky	86.7	99.2	-12.5
New Jersey	86.7	89.5	-2.8
Alaska	87.4	94.7	-7.3
Indiana	87.9	95.5	-7.5
Washington	88.4	85.1	3.4
Wisconsin	89.8	93.0	-3.2
Puerto Rico	90.3	96.0	-5.7
Missouri	90.7	89.2	1.6
Alabama	91.4	91.9	-.6
Arizona	91.8	95.5	-3.7
Pennsylvania	93.0	96.6	-3.6
Oklahoma	93.0	89.4	3.7
Vermont	93.2	99.9	-6.6
Virginia	93.7	95.5	-1.8
California	93.8	96.0	-2.2
Idaho	93.9	96.1	-2.3
North Carolina	94.1	95.7	-1.6
Maine	94.1	91.2	2.9
Iowa	94.4	94.5	-.1
Delaware	95.2	104.3	-9.1
New York	95.2	96.2	-1.0
North Dakota	96.8	100.5	-3.7
Oregon	97.1	93.6	3.5
New Hampshire	97.2		
Michigan	97.4	99.7	-2.3
Colorado	97.7	97.8	-.1
Minnesota	98.1	97.2	.9
New Mexico	98.3	95.0	3.2
District of Columbia	99.2	97.4	1.7
Wyoming	99.6	96.4	3.1
Ohio	99.6	97.7	1.9
West Virginia	99.6	106.6	-7.0
Rhode Island	99.7	81.0	18.7
Nebraska	100.2	88.8	11.4
Kansas	105.4	106.0	-.6
Illinois	122.9	97.2	25.7
Montana	123.5	110.4	13.1
Utah	123.9		

	Limited Jurisdiction Courts		
State	1989	1988	Difference
Washington	74.6	73.1	1.4
Louisiana	80.4	84.7	-4.3
California	81.4	82.4	-1.0
Florida	83.2	86.3	-3.1
Kentucky	89.2	94.7	-5.5
Oregon	89.7	91.9	-2.2
Utah	89.9		
Maine	90.6	88.9	1.7
New Jersey	91.3	92.3	-1.0
Alaska	92.2	95.6	-3.4
Michigan	92.2	91.7	.6
Indiana	93.0	101.6	-8.5
Maryland	93.3		
Alabama	93.7		
Puerto Rico	94.2	95.4	-1.3
Rhode Island	95.6	88.0	7.6
New Mexico	95.7	100.7	-5.0
North Carolina	96.2	97.3	-1.1
Nebraska	96.5	95.0	1.6
Arizona	96.9	92.4	4.5
Delaware	98.0	99.8	-1.8
Hawaii	98.3	92.5	5.8
Virginia	108.1	100.3	7.8
Kansas	134.6	112.7	21.9

Note: A blank space indicates that a calculation is in appropriate for that year.

Source: Table 10, Part III

National Center for State Courts, 1991

JUVENILE FILINGS IN 1989. The 1,463,410 juvenile petitions filed during 1989 represent a small share (1.5 percent) of the total reported trial court caseload. Even when traffic and other ordinance violation cases are omitted, juvenile petitions only account for about one trial court filing in 22 (4.7 percent).

Juvenile caseloads reflect the use made of the special procedures (sometimes special jurisdiction trial courts) that have been established to hear cases involving persons defined by state law as juveniles. The caseload includes criminal-type juvenile petitions, status offense petitions (conduct illegal only for children), and child victim petitions. A juvenile petition is the equivalent to a case in an adult trial court when counting filings or dispositions.[16]

Most states now decide juvenile petitions within a court of general jurisdiction, often in a specially designated division or department. As a result, more than two-thirds (70 percent) of all juvenile petitions were filed in a court of general jurisdiction, where they represent 7.8 percent of the combined civil, criminal, and juvenile caseload.

Filing and disposition statistics, along with explanatory footnotes, for each court with juvenile subject matter jurisdiction can be found in Table 12, Part III (p. 137). Relevant statistics were not reported by Mississippi, Nevada, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. **Map 4** describes the comparability across the remaining states of statistics on the number of juvenile petitions filed in 1989, based on the footnotes to Table 12.

Juvenile caseloads emerge as the most variable component of state trial court caseloads. This describes

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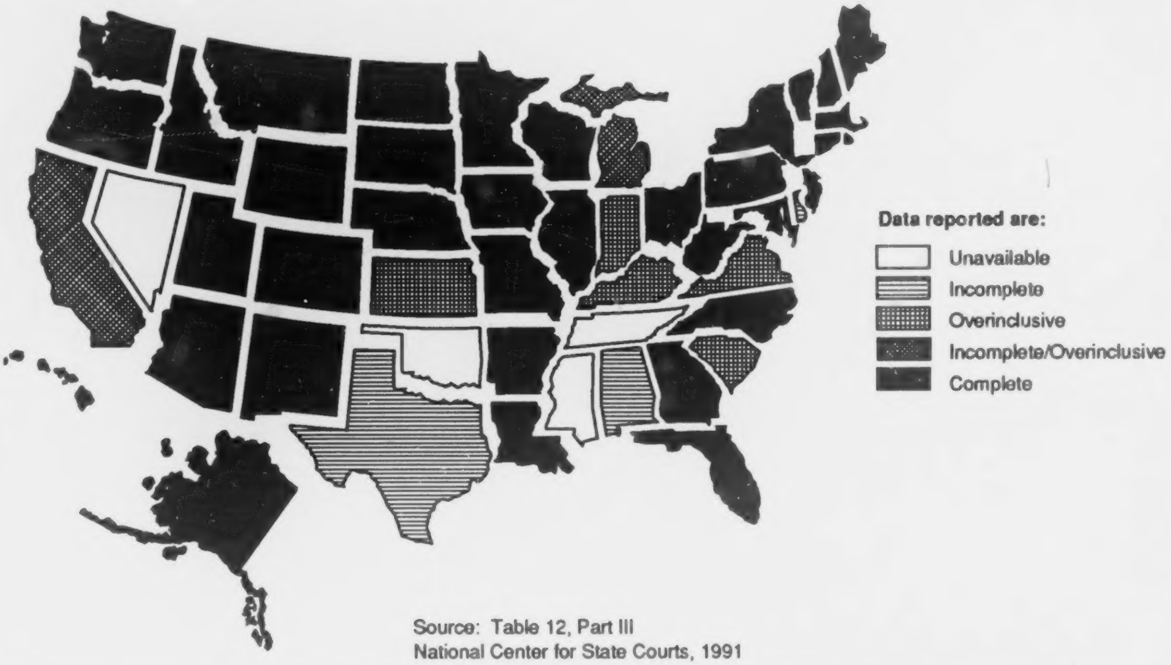
[16] See *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary, 1989.*

MAP 4: Comparability of Juvenile Filing Data, 1989



Source: Table 12, Part III
National Center for State Courts, 1991

both the share that juvenile petitions represented of new case filings in a state's trial courts and the rate of new cases filed per 100,000 juveniles in the state population during 1989.

Graph 3 demonstrates the variability of the rate at which juvenile petitions were filed during 1989, with the rates calculated per 100,000 state residents age 17 or under. Forty-two states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico are included.[17]

Juvenile filing rates per 100,000 juvenile population vary widely from 651 in Montana and 682 in Puerto Rico to 7,025 in New Jersey. Hawaii, Utah, Alabama, and Virginia reported filing rates close to New Jersey's with rates that are nearly three times greater than the median filing rate of 2,035 reported by the courts of Indiana. Although there is a wide range in juvenile filing rates, most states are concentrated at relatively low levels surrounding the median.[18]

What explains this diversity, so much greater than what was found for either civil or criminal filing rates? One factor is the divergent means and degrees to which states have established special procedures and courts to process cases involving delinquent juveniles. The composition of "civil" and "criminal" as caseload categories does not differ significantly from state to state, with much the same type of cases forming the 1989 filings of each state. There is no such broad agreement on what constitutes a "juvenile" case. What is heard through regular court procedures in one state may well be heard through special juvenile court procedures in another.

That difference is manifest in the age at which a person is no longer eligible for juvenile court handling. Most states define a juvenile as a person under age 18, often with exceptions based on the offense alleged. For example, Louisiana statutes define a juvenile as a person under age 17, but a 15-year-old can be charged in the district court as an adult if the offense is first or second degree murder, manslaughter, or aggravated rape; the threshold rises to 16 if the offense is armed robbery, aggravated burglary, or aggravated kidnapping.

The age at which a person is no longer eligible for original juvenile court handling can have a large impact on both a state's criminal and juvenile caseload. Research consistently shows that involvement in crime peaks in the 15-17 age group. Arrest statistics show that 15- to 19-year-olds represent 28.7 percent of those arrested for FBI index crimes and 8.2 percent of the national population.[19] Therefore, the choice of 17 rather than 19 as the point to transfer court jurisdiction, or even

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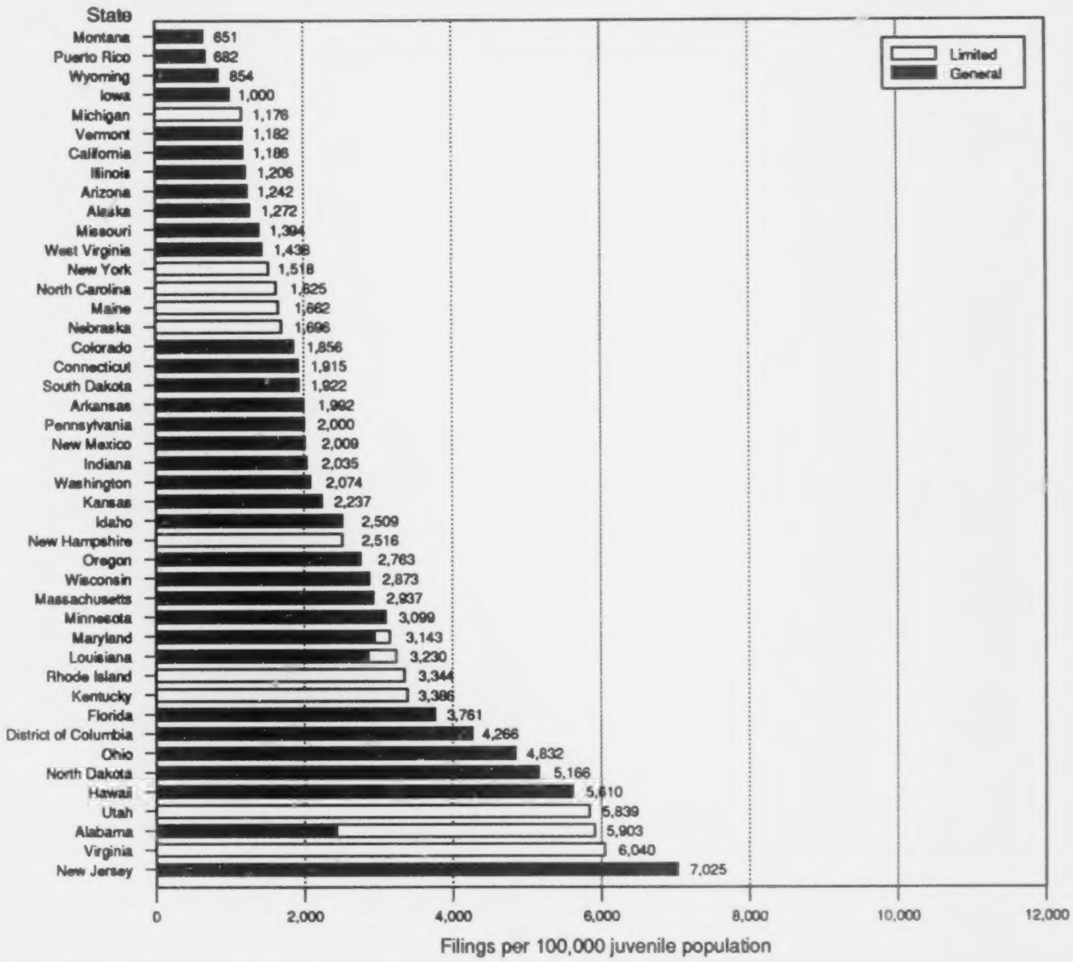
[17] The Arkansas County Court, sitting as the juvenile court, had exclusive jurisdiction to handle juvenile petitions until early in 1987. The Arkansas Supreme Court found that practice unconstitutional. Effective January 20, 1987, juvenile jurisdiction was transferred to the circuit court and the chancery and probate court, pending approval of a constitutional amendment, which was approved in November, 1988, and pending a 1989 legislative act that would structure a new juvenile court system.

[18] Due to a change in how reactivated child-victim petitions are treated in the court's record system, filings of juvenile petitions in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia are incomplete and not included in the graph. The District of Columbia reported the largest juvenile filing rate in 1987 and 1988.

GRAPH 3: Juvenile Filings per 100,000 Juvenile Population in State Trial Courts, 1989



The following states are not included: DE, GA, MS, NV, OK, SC, TN, TX.

18, can significantly affect the relative number of juvenile as opposed to criminal court filings.

Thirty-seven states and the District of Columbia terminate original juvenile delinquency jurisdiction in juvenile courts at age 18; Wyoming at age 19. Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, South Carolina, and Texas define an adult for purposes of court jurisdiction as a 17-year-old. Four states use 16 as the threshold age dividing juvenile and adult status: Connecticut, New York, North Carolina, and Vermont.

The two latter groups of states have defined juvenile more narrowly than most states; this should be reflected in the size of their juvenile caseload. Graph 3 suggests that is indeed the case for the states that use 16 as a dividing line, as all four states have filing rates below the median. The use of a lower than typical age to transfer persons from juvenile status may be a factor in the relatively low rates reported by Illinois and Michigan, but states that have adopted age 17 as the point of transfer did not consistently report low filing rates.

Other factors may underlie variations in caseload. Law enforcement agencies differ in the extent to which they divert juvenile law violators from further penetration into the justice system. Case screening practices by juvenile court intake officers vary significantly and create a wide range of referral to petition ratios. Prosecutors have differing authority at the intake juncture, which also will have an impact on these ratios. The amount of judge

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19. The authority for the "peak" at age 15-17 in criminal activity is Travis Hirschi and Michael Gottfredson, "Age and the explanation of crime," *American Journal of Sociology* Vol. 89, No. 3 (November), 1983. The arrest percentage is calculated from Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice, *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports 1987.* Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1988, Table 33, p. 174.

TEXT TABLE 4: Trial Court Clearance Rates for Juvenile Cases, 1989

	General Jurisdiction Courts		
State	1989	1988	Difference
Florida	68.8	69.4	-.6
Alaska	73.3	75.5	-2.2
Montana	78.3	83.4	-5.2
Alabama	85.3	78.4	6.9
Colorado	86.9	87.9	-1.0
Indiana	88.9	86.2	2.7
California	90.5	95.9	-5.4
Idaho	91.5	98.7	-7.2
Arkansas	92.1	100.7	-8.6
Hawaii	92.3	96.9	-4.6
Washington	93.0	89.3	3.8
Maryland	95.3	95.6	-.3
New Mexico	95.5	100.5	-5.0
Kansas	95.9	96.4	-.5
Puerto Rico	96.4	100.7	-4.2
Missouri	96.5		
Connecticut	97.4	99.8	-2.3
Minnesota	97.5	99.7	-2.2
New Jersey	97.8	98.9	-1.0
Wisconsin	99.3	98.1	1.2
Arizona	100.0	99.5	.5
Ohio	100.2	97.6	2.6
Pennsylvania	100.5	95.4	5.2
Illinois	100.6	75.5	25.1
Texas	104.0	120.5	-16.5
District of Columbia	104.4	100.4	4.0
Vermont	104.7	95.9	8.8
West Virginia	114.4	88.7	25.8

	Limited Jurisdiction Courts		
State	1989	1988	Difference
Maryland	81.0	85.7	-4.7
Indiana	85.1	100.9	-15.8
Kentucky	85.8	90.2	-4.3
Delaware	86.4	96.0	-9.6
Michigan	86.7	89.0	-2.3
Maine	87.8	86.3	1.5
Louisiana	90.7	93.3	-2.6
Rhode Island	91.1	91.0	.1
Texas	92.7	100.8	-8.2
Virginia	96.0	94.2	1.8
Utah	97.4	100.5	-3.1
Alabama	99.0	93.6	5.4
New York	102.5	100.5	1.9
North Carolina	104.5	106.6	-2.1

Note: A blank space indicates that a calculation is in appropriate for that year.

Source: Table 12, Part III

National Center for State Courts, 1991

time available and the size of probation officers' supervision caseloads also may influence referral to petition ratios. Rural communities and states tend to file fewer petitions proportionately than more urban jurisdictions; their delinquent offenses may be less serious and more amenable to noncourt or informal handling. Some states permit direct filings of charges in a criminal court, particularly for juveniles who are charged with serious offenses, although the number of cases involved is not great.

Generally, the juvenile status offense category is known to have extreme variance. Such cases are rarely or infrequently petitioned in some jurisdictions, but routinely petitioned elsewhere. The differences can be pronounced, even within one state.

That variation may have grown in recent years as the number of dependency, neglect, and abuse case filings increased. The frequency with which a child protection agency files juvenile court petitions, as opposed to working with a family without court intervention, has been shown to vary sizably, adding to the differences among the states in the rate at which juvenile petitions are filed.

The bars in the graph distinguish filings in a court of general jurisdiction from those in courts of special or limited jurisdiction. All filings in Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Utah, and Virginia were in a court of limited jurisdiction. Juvenile petitions in 27 of the states included on the graph were filed in a general jurisdiction court; Alabama, Alaska, Indiana, Louisiana, and Maryland file juvenile cases at both court levels.

The significance of juvenile petitions to the total state trial court caseload can be determined in 27 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. When civil, criminal, and juvenile filings are combined in those jurisdictions, the percentage share formed by juvenile petitions ranged from 2 percent in Arizona and North Carolina to 16.5 percent in Hawaii. In 19 states and Puerto Rico, the share is in the 3-to-5 percent range.[20] Larger shares are reported by the District of Columbia (6.6 percent), Kansas (7.2 percent), Kentucky (8.0 percent), Florida (6.4 percent), Minnesota (14.0 percent), and Utah (12.3 percent); as noted previously, juvenile cases were most prevalent in the Hawaii caseload: 16.5 percent of the total caseload and 39.8 percent of filings in the state's general jurisdiction court.

That variability means that most states rank quite differently in terms of the rate of criminal and of juvenile case filings. The District of Columbia, Utah, and Virginia are distinctive in ranking high for both criminal and juvenile case filings. Iowa and Missouri are distinctive for the degree to which low juvenile filings coincide with low criminal filing rates.

Clearance Rates for Juvenile Petitions. Clearance rates for juvenile petitions, based on caseload statistics from Table 12, Part III (p. 137), are presented in **Text Table 4** to address the question of whether juvenile petitions were being processed more expeditiously during 1989 than were civil or criminal cases. The table also provides the clearance rate each court recorded in 1988 to ascertain whether what is reported for 1989 reflects short-term or long-term problems of the state courts.

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[20] The 18 states in which juvenile filings represent 3 to 5 percent of total civil, criminal, and juvenile filings are: Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington. The percentage share of each type of case will be affected by footnotes indicating that statistics are incomplete or overinclusive in Tables 9, 10, and 12, Part III.

Clearance rates are available from 37 separate statewide court systems, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Those rates vary from a low of 68.8 percent in Florida to a high of 114.4 percent in West Virginia. Ten court systems reported clearance rates of 100 percent or greater, 12 reported rates between 95 and 100 percent, eight reported rates between 90 and 95 percent, and 12 courts reported rates of less than 90 percent. In 1989, general jurisdiction courts fared slightly better than limited or special jurisdiction courts in the degree to which they were able to keep pace with the flow of new cases. Most statewide court systems, however, ended 1989 with larger pending juvenile caseloads than they had at the start of the year.

Overall, state courts recorded somewhat greater success in coping with juvenile caseloads than with civil or criminal cases. That impression is reinforced when the 1989 clearance rates are compared to those found in 1988. Where cases are heard in a general jurisdiction court, the clearance rate improved in ten states and declined in 12 states; it was unchanged in six. For courts of limited jurisdiction, the change between 1989 and 1988 was more prone to be a deterioration, with nine states registering a decline, four an improvement, and one no change.

That theme also emerges when the more extreme changes between the two years are examined. Two general jurisdiction courts recorded significant improvements to their clearance rates: Illinois, which rose from 75.5 percent in 1988 to 100.6 percent in 1989, and West Virginia, which climbed from 88.7 to 114.4 percent. This contrasts with the decline in the clearance rates experienced by the limited jurisdiction courts of Indiana (from 100.9 to 85.1 percent) and Delaware (from 96 to 86.4 percent). However, the slight relative success general jurisdiction courts enjoy over limited jurisdiction courts in the juvenile area is not observed in previous years and the main finding for 1989 remains the difficulty courts generally are experiencing in disposing of as many juvenile cases as are being filed.

Analyzing State and Federal Court Caseloads

The uses of caseload statistics such as those just reviewed can extend beyond state comparisons to such topical issues as the relative workloads of the state and federal trial court systems. Therefore, before turning to the situation in the appellate courts, data from this report and from the *Annual Report of the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, 1989* are used to construct a federal versus state comparison.

With the recent (April, 1990) *Report of the Federal Courts Study Committee,* the continuing debate about the proper distribution of jurisdiction between federal and state courts has a new air of urgency and practical relevance. On the basis of the "goal [of a] principled allocation of jurisdiction,"[21] the committee proposed abolishing, with limited exceptions, federal diversity jurisdiction and curtailing federal drug prosecutions.

Implementing the committee's proposals requires that state courts assume responsibility for most diversity and drug cases now handled by federal courts. The committee acknowledges that state courts may also be overburdened. As a counterpoint to the committee's analysis of federal court caseloads, we offer an estimate of the relative workload currently being handled by federal courts as opposed to state courts.[22]

Federal Versus State Trial Courts

The analysis of federal and state workloads must be structured so that only the most similar and relevant aspects of each system's caseload are compared. First, the appropriate basis for comparing the workload of the state and federal judiciary must be defined. Specifically, how can we take into account (1) variation in the types of cases handled and (2) jurisdictional restrictions within both state and federal courts? Second, once the focus is set, what is the most precise comparison that can be offered between the two systems? The combined workload of the U.S. district courts is contrasted with that faced individually by the general jurisdiction court systems in four states—California, Michigan, North Carolina, and Oregon. Each of these states had the same or higher dollar amount jurisdiction as the threshold of civil diversity cases[23] ($10,000) filed in U.S. district courts in 1989.[24]

MINIMIZING CASELOAD VARIATION. The comparability of state and federal court systems is maximized when comparisons are limited to civil and criminal cases in the primary trial courts of each system: the U.S. district courts and state trial courts of general jurisdiction. This eliminates traffic and juvenile cases handled at any state court level, as well as all cases filed in limited jurisdiction trial courts.[25] On the criminal side, the U.S. district courts and the state trial courts of general jurisdiction both primarily handle felonies with some serious misdemeanor cases. It should be noted, however, that 17.5 percent of the total criminal caseload reported for the U.S. district courts consists of drunk driving and traffic offenses.[26]

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[21] *Report of the Federal Study Committee,* p. 35. The committee was appointed by the Chief Justice at the direction of Congress.

[22] This issue is considered in more depth in Brian J. Ostrom and Geoff Gallas, "Case Space: Do Workload Considerations Support a Shift From Federal to State Court Systems," 14 State Court Journal 3, 1990, pp. 15-22.

[23] Such cases constitute 28.4 percent of the civil cases filed in U.S. district courts in 1988 (Annual Report of the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts 1988, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., p. 9). The requirement as to amount in controversy applies only in diversity of citizenship cases (28 USC §1332), no amount in controversy is required for actions arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States (28 USC §1331).

[24] The $10,000 minimum dollar amount jurisdiction was true for cases involving federal diversity jurisdiction until May 19, 1989 when the minimum dollar amount rose to $50,000. The U.S. district court reports statistics on a fiscal year basis (fiscal year 1989: July 1, 1988-June 30, 1989) so that the change in the minimum dollar amount was likely to have only a minimal affect on the filing rate in FY89.

[25] The issue of caseload comparability has been addressed for tort and contract cases in Victor Flango and Craig Boersema, *Changes in Federal Diversity Jurisdiction: Effects on State Court Caseload,* National Center for State Courts, March 15, 1990, p. 41-64.

On the civil side, the state trial courts of general jurisdiction approximate the dollar limits and case types faced by the U.S. district courts in 1989. The similarity is greatest for tort, contract, and real property cases (hereafter referred to as general civil).[27] There are, however, differences in the remainder of the civil caseload. For example, domestic relations cases are a sizable portion of the general jurisdiction trial court civil caseload (see Text Table 2, p. 11), while being virtually nonexistent in the U.S. district courts. The degree of judicial involvement is minimal in the most common of these cases: uncontested domestic relations actions. U.S. district courts, however, also have jurisdiction over civil cases that typically require minimal judicial attention. These include most contract cases involving defaulted student loans, overpayment of veterans benefits, and social security disability claims, as well as section 1983 torts filed by state prisoners. Although obviously not a perfect match, civil and criminal filings in the state trial courts of general jurisdiction and the U.S. district courts offer a reasonable basis for comparison.

MINIMIZING JURISDICTIONAL DIVERSITY. Jurisdictional restrictions also vary between the state and federal court systems. A civil case filed in a U.S. district court throughout most of fiscal year 1989 involving diversity of citizenship needed to involve a minimum dollar amount of $10,000. In contrast, state general jurisdiction courts often have no minimum dollar amount jurisdiction (see Figure C, Part V (p. 238)).In 1989, the general jurisdiction courts in three states—Michigan, North Carolina, and Oregon—had minimum dollar amount jurisdictions of $10,000, while the general jurisdiction courts in California had a minimum dollar amount jurisdiction of $25,000. The general jurisdiction courts in these four states thus mirror the 1989 requirement of a $10,000 minimum amount-in-controversy for all diversity actions filed in U.S. district courts. Moreover, while very few other civil case types filed in the U.S. district courts have a minimum dollar amount requirement, studies indicate that the $10,000 figure represents a minimum dollar amount in most nondiversity federal civil case types.[28] Assuming that dollar-amount-in-controversy and complexity are related, focusing on these states reduces concern about whether the general jurisdiction civil workload can legitimately be compared to the federal court workload.

Moreover, the issue of case mix can be addressed by examining states with dollar amount jurisdiction similar to that of the federal trial courts. Felony, tort, contract, and real property rights cases tend to consume more court resources than other criminal and civil cases. It has been estimated that, except for asbestos cases and high-dollar-amount contract cases, there is a rough equivalence between the general civil caseload handled in the state court and federal court systems.[29] Since the four states to be examined report more detailed information on the components of civil and criminal caseloads than are available in the national general jurisdiction state trial court totals, specific comparisons can be made.

U.S. DISTRICT COURTS VERSUS GENERAL JURISDICTION COURTS IN CALIFORNIA, MICHIGAN, NORTH CAROLINA, AND OREGON. Text Tables 5 and 6 offer the most precise comparison between the two systems: the minimum dollar amount jurisdiction is comparable, general civil filings (tort, contract, and real property cases) are distinguished from total civil filings, and felony filings are distinguished from total criminal filings. As can be seen in **Text Table 5**, total civil filings, as well as the general civil component, are larger for the combined U.S. district courts than in the general jurisdiction courts of three of the four states being examined (California is the noteworthy exception).[30]

Since population adjusted comparisons would not be informative, and to stay within the spirit of the Federal Study Committee's report, the analysis now turns to an examination of available judicial resources. Consideration of filings per judge considerably alters the interpretation (**Text Table 6**). All four states have more than

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[26] Since it was impossible to separate the criminal drunk driving from the other traffic offenses, all of these cases have been included in the total criminal filings figure for the U.S. district courts. Drunk driving violations are a very small component of the total criminal filing figures for state courts of general jurisdiction. Of the 58 general jurisdiction state trial courts reporting criminal data, 29 have no jurisdiction over drunk driving cases, six did not report drunk driving offenses, and an additional six courts reported only partial totals.

[27] In the Flango and Boersema study, *supra* note 25, p. 41-64, some differences in caseload composition between state and federal courts are reported. For tort cases it was found that state courts have a greater proportion of personal injury cases and a smaller proportion of asbestos cases than federal courts. Most contract cases filed in state courts tend to involve smaller amounts-in-controversy than contract cases filed in the federal courts. They conclude, with the exception of asbestos cases and high dollar contract cases, "... one case eliminated from federal court can be counted as one case added to the dockets of state courts." (p. 60)

[28] Flango and Boersema, *supra* note 25, unpublished data.

[29] Flango and Boersema, *supra* note 25, p. 60.

[30] As discussed earlier in the report, differences in the method of case count between courts may affect the comparability of data. With respect to civil caseloads, the four states in this study, as well as nearly all other states, and the federal courts use the same method of civil case count: the complaint or petition that begins an action.

That degree of uniformity does not extend/apply to criminal cases. The recommended method for counting state court criminal case filings is to count each defendant and all charges involved in a single incident as a single case. This is the method used by the majority of the nation's general jurisdiction state trial courts, including those in California and Michigan. The general jurisdiction courts in Oregon and North Carolina also use this method of criminal case count in the majority of their judicial districts. The content of the criminal case count in the remaining judicial districts of these two states "varies with the prosecutor." The exact magnitude cannot be determined. At most, however, in a few judicial districts the criminal caseload count reflects a count of charges, as opposed to incidents, and thus inflates the state totals. To maintain comparability with the state courts, we count each criminal defendant in the U.S. district courts as a separate case.

TEXT TABLE 5: Caseloads of U.S. District Courts Versus Four States (All General Jurisdiction Trial Courts), 1989

	All U.S. District Courts		California General Juris. Trial Courts		Michigan General Juris. Trial Courts		North Carolina General Juris. Trial Courts		Oregon General Juris. Trial Courts	
	Filed	**Judges**	**Filed**	**Judges**	**Filed**	**Judges**	**Filed**	**Judges**	**Filed**	**Judges**
Civil										
Tort	42,090	575	131,900	789	32,663	171	7,879	77	(in general civil)	
Contract	61,975	575	(in total civil)		32,711	171	5,853	77		
Real Property	11,217	575	2,161	789	(in contract)		1,260	77		
Total General Civil	115,282	575	134,061	789	65,374	171	14,992	77	25,157	87
Total Civil	233,529	575	672,630	789	183,897	171	110,998	77	85,515	87
Criminal										
Felony	45,591	575	132,486	789	60,048	171	62,752	77	27,248	87
Misdemeanor	15,260	575	No Jurisdiction		(in felony)		4,658	77	No Jurisdiction	
Total	60,851	575	132,486	789	60,048	171	67,410	77	27,248	87
Total General Civil + Felony	160,873	575	266,547	789	125,422*	171	77,744	77	52,405	87
Grand Total Civil + Criminal	294,380	575	805,116	789	243,945	171	178,408	77	112,763	87

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*Includes both misdemeanor and felony criminal filings.

TEXT TABLE 6: Filings per Judge, U.S. District Courts and Four States (General Jurisdiction Trial Courts Total General Civil, Total Civil, and Criminal), 1989

	All U.S. District Courts	California General Juris. Trial Courts	Michigan General Juris. Trial Courts	North Carolina General Juris. Trial Courts	Oregon General Juris. Trial Courts
	Filings per Judge	**Filings per Judge**	**Filings per Judge**	**Filings per Judge**	**Filings per Judge**
Civil					
Tort	73.2	167.2	191.0	102.3	
Contract	107.8	(in civil)	191.3	76.0	(in general civil)
Real Property	19.5	2.7	(in contract)	16.4	
Total General Civil	200.5	169.9	382.3	194.7	289.2
Total Civil	406.1	852.5	1,075.4	1,441.5	982.9
Criminal					
Felony	79.3	167.9	351.2	815.0	313.2
Misdemeanor	26.5	No Jurisdiction	(in felony)	60.5	No Jurisdiction
Total	105.8	167.9	351.2	875.5	313.2
Total General Civil + Felony	279.8	337.8	733.5*	1,009.7	602.4
Grand Total Civil + Criminal	512.0	1,020.4	1,426.6	2,317.0	1,296.1

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*Includes both misdemeanor and felony criminal filings.

twice the total civil filings per judge in their general jurisdiction courts than the U.S. district courts. Therefore, while the number of total civil filings is higher in all U.S. district courts than in three of the four state trial courts of general jurisdiction being analyzed, actual workload per judge is substantially higher in all four state court systems.

Similar results emerge when the scope is narrowed to filings per judge for those specific case types that make most intensive use of judicial resources: general civil and felony cases. That is, when the analysis focuses exclusively on tort, contract, real property rights, and felony case filings per judge, U.S. district court judges handle a workload 82 percent the size of general jurisdiction judges in California and 46 percent of Oregon general jurisdiction judges (Text Table 6). General jurisdiction courts in Michigan and North Carolina feature even higher felony and general civil filings per judge than U.S. district judges. These numbers gain significance when it is noted that, on average (for these four states as well as the nation as a whole), civil and criminal filings comprise less than 50 percent of all cases (civil, criminal, traffic, and juvenile) handled by general jurisdiction state judges.

Looking at criminal cases, the U.S. district courts handle 67 percent more felony cases than the Oregon circuit courts, the smallest of the four states (Text Table 5), although the Oregon general jurisdiction court system has approximately one-seventh as many judges and thus much higher per judge felony criminal workloads (Text Table 6). The other three state courts handle substantially more felony cases, both in terms of total filings and filings per judge, relative to the U.S. district courts.[31]

Discussion

While the U.S. district courts handle a larger number of civil cases than three of four states examined, U.S. district judges have far smaller civil caseloads than state general jurisdiction judges in any of the four states. Examining just the felony component indicates that U.S. district court caseloads tend to be substantially smaller both in the absolute number of filings and on a per judge basis than that handled by general jurisdiction courts in California, Michigan, North Carolina, and Oregon.

These last points are particularly relevant for those who propose a caseload shift from federal to state courts. Although the number of civil cases involved would be small relative to a state's total civil caseload, the case types, primarily tort and contract, are arguably more time and resource intensive than the average state civil case and would be sent to state courts where filings per judge are generally far higher than in the federal courts. Similarly, those who argue that the federal courts are already overwhelmed with criminal cases and that most drug cases filed in the federal courts should be transferred to the state courts find little comfort in the comparative workload measures presented here. While, as a matter of principle, the state courts may be a more appropriate forum, the proposed shift threatens the viability of the state courts.

Trial Courts in 1989: A Summary

State trial court filings increased in 1989. The increase was greatest for criminal cases, especially those filed in general jurisdiction courts (an increase of 4.7 percent). Civil case filings increased slightly, with a larger increase in limited than in general jurisdiction courts. The increase parallels the experience of appellate courts, which reported 3.5 percent more filings in 1989 than in 1988.

States experienced quite similar civil filing rates in 1989. Most states reported civil filing rates close to the median of 6,309 per 100,000 population. Greater variation was present for criminal filing rates. The range was from 1,661 to 17,780 per 100,000 population, with only moderate concentration around the median of 4,951 filings. Greater variation still characterized juvenile filing rates. States' filing rates were scattered across a range from 651 to 7,025 filings per 100,000 juvenile population in 1989.

The differences among states reflect both real variation in the extent to which cases are brought before the courts and the various methods of count and degrees of data completeness. However, the degree of variation found for civil, criminal, and juvenile cases is consistent with what would be expected. Civil law and procedure are broadly similar across the country. Crime rates, substantive criminal laws, and law enforcement practices all differ among states in ways that affect the number of cases reaching the courts. Differences in rates of offending, state law, and state law enforcement are still more pronounced in their impact on the use of courts to handle juvenile cases.

A few states report consistently high or consistently low use of their trial courts. Delaware, the District of Columbia, and Virginia reported among the highest filing rates for all three types of cases. Missouri reported low rates for all three. In states with two-tier trial court systems, civil cases dominate the caseload of general jurisdiction courts.

A strong and disturbing pattern in 1989 trial court caseload statistics is low clearance rates. Many, perhaps most courts are experiencing difficulty in keeping up with the inflow of new cases. The number of new cases filed in 1989 often substantially exceeded the number of cases that were disposed of by the court. The problem is more prevalent for juvenile petition and criminal cases than for civil cases, and more serious for limited jurisdiction than for general jurisdiction courts.

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[31] This result is consistent across all states for general jurisdiction courts. For the 45 general jurisdiction state courts reporting felony filings in 1989, the average number filed was 34,095. As noted earlier, the average number of general jurisdiction judges for all states was about 170, less than one-third the number in the U.S. district courts. The total number of felony defendants handled in all U.S. district courts in 1989 by 575 judges was 45,591.

Rising civil and criminal caseloads create problems that ultimately will be transferred to the appellate courts. More cases add to the potential pool from which appeals are drawn and appellate courts will need to cope with the consequences of the trial court caseload growth recorded during 1989 as the cases filed in that year reach judgment.

Appellate Court Caseloads in 1989

The number of appeals filed is small relative to the large pool of trial court dispositions. Most civil cases are settled by the parties themselves and many criminal cases are dismissed, precluding appeals. Further, the size of the financial stake in the majority of civil cases and the severity of the potential penalty in most criminal cases make an appeal unlikely even in a case resolved by court decision.

States differ, however, in what can be appealed as a matter of right to the appellate courts.[32] Contrary to the conventional wisdom that appeals arise almost exclusively from trial verdicts, studies show that nontrial proceedings can account for as much as 70 percent of civil appeals and 80 percent of criminal appeals in state intermediate appellate courts.[33] This is important for the study of caseloads. First, states define the right of appeal quite differently. For example, some states permit appeals in a criminal case from a plea of guilty or of the sentence only, which affects the composition and size of their appellate caseloads. Second, the link between trial court dispositions and appellate filings is shaped in the short term by legislative initiatives in areas like sentencing reform and tort reform. Third, the first level appeals courts at the federal level have been characterized as experiencing a "crisis in volume," exacerbated in recent years by drug cases.[34] Does this apply to the state courts? If so, is it more applicable in some states than others and why?

This section begins with a summary of overall activity within the state appellate courts. Distinctions in appellate court structure (the roles of courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts) and the manner in which new cases reach appellate courts (i.e., mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions) are explained.[35] An appraisal is also given of the overall completeness and comparability of the appellate caseload data. The magnitude and composition of total state appellate caseloads are then described, looking first at mandatory appeals and then at discretionary petitions. The main conclusions are summarized at the end.

Overview

State appellate courts reported 229,571 filings in 1989: 167,797 mandatory appeals and 61,774 discretionary petitions. Filing data are available for all 95 courts of last resort (COLRs) and intermediate appellate courts (IACs) in the 50 states and the District of Columbia.[36] There was a 3.5 percent increase in total appellate filings between 1988 and 1989. Overall, COLR filings increased by 2.2 percent and IAC filings by 4.1 percent. The increase was strongest for mandatory appeals filed in IACs: IACs with relevant data for both years reported 4.3 percent more appeals in 1989 than in 1988. Filings of mandatory appeals in COLRs increased by 0.5 percent. IAC discretionary petitions increased by 2.2 percent and COLR discretionary appeals by 3.2 percent.[37] The connection between caseload composition and appellate structure is important for any consideration of the work, operations, and problems of appellate courts nationally.

Appellate Court Structure and Jurisdiction in 1989

The conventional wisdom on appellate court reform is that there are two basic functions that determine the appropriate role and structure of state appellate systems: (1) the review of specific trial court proceedings to correct errors in the application of law and procedure and (2) the development of law for the benefit of the community at large.[38] The error correction function should be exercised through mandatory jurisdiction, with each unsuccessful party entitled to one appeal as a matter of right. Further appellate review should serve the function of developing the law, including ensuring its uniform application by trial courts throughout the state, and be undertaken on a discretionary basis by selecting the appropriate cases out of those reaching the court through discretionary petitions. Where the volume of cases exceeds the COLR's capacity, an IAC should assume the error correction function and the COLR should, by the exercise of its discretion to review all manner of petitions, develop the law.[39]

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[32] Joy Chapper and Roger Hanson, *Intermediate Appellate Courts: Improving Case Processing.* Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1990, p. vi.

[33] Chapper and Hanson, *supra* note 32, pp. 6-7.

[34] See the analysis by the Federal Court Study Committee on pages 109-110 (but see also the dissenting minority's rejoinder on p. 123). Of course, the issue extends to the types of appeals that form appellate court caseloads and their varying implications for appellate workload.

[35] The functional distinction between mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction is that mandatory cases are "appeals of right" that the appellate court must hear and decide on the merits. In discretionary jurisdiction matters, the appellate court must first decide whether to grant a petition of final judgment. Discretionary petitions that are granted by the appellate court are then given full plenary consideration in the same manner as mandatory cases.

[36] Puerto Rico reports trial court but not appellate court statistics to the NCSC Court Statistics Project.

Other proceedings such as rehearing/reconsideration requests, motions, bar admissions, and the like are *not* included in the appellate caseload count.

[37] United States courts of appeal experienced a 3 percent increase in filings between 1988 and 1989. The overall increase in appeals was largely attributable to a substantial jump in criminal appeals from the district courts. These appeals climbed 27 percent due primarily to the implementation of new sentencing guidelines. *Want's Federal-State Directory, 1991 Edition*, p. 179.

[38] The perspective is put forward in several authoritative texts that vary in nuance. The summary here is derived from the American Bar Association, *Standards Relating to Court Organization*, ABA, 1974, pp. 1-10.

The influence of this perspective on state court systems is evident in current appellate court structures. All states have established by constitution a court of last resort (COLR), usually named the supreme court. The COLR has the final jurisdiction over all appeals within the state. Thirty-eight states have responded to caseload growth by establishing one or more intermediate appellate courts to hear appeals from trial courts and administrative agencies, as specified in state law or at the direction or assignment of the COLR. Twenty-five of these states established their IACs since 1958. Yet, despite the common contexts in which they were created, careful examination reveals complex differences in the allocation of jurisdiction between COLRs and IACs.

The consequences of these differences are highlighted when one matches appellate structure with jurisdiction. The matching process produces four categories of cases: (1) COLR mandatory appeals, (2) COLR discretionary petitions, (3) IAC mandatory appeals, and (4) IAC discretionary petitions.

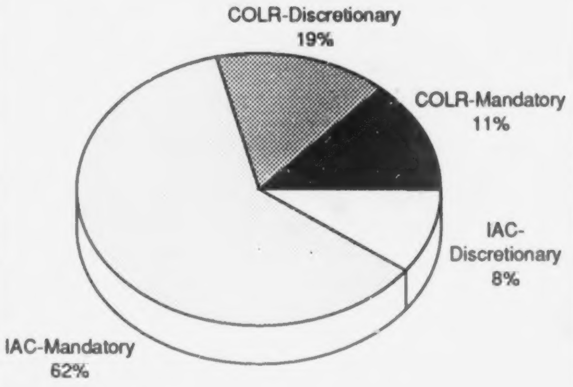
If we combine the appellate filings reported by the states according to court level and jurisdiction, the 1989 appellate caseload is as shown in **Chart 4**. Nineteen percent of all filings were discretionary petitions to COLRs and 11 percent of all filings took the form of mandatory appeals to COLRs. Mandatory appeals to IACs represented 62 percent of the total state appellate caseload for the year, while 8 percent consisted of discretionary petitions to IACs.

Completeness and Comparability of Data

Care is required when determining when like is being compared to like in the world of appellate courts. It is therefore useful to highlight some important dimensions on which state appellate court systems differ before turning to 1989 appellate filings and clearance rates.

The first dimension is the number of courts established at each level in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. This can be seen in **Map 5**. The 12 states with only one appellate court are typically sparsely populated or geographically small. Thirty-two states have one COLR and one IAC. Texas and Oklahoma have separate COLRs for criminal and civil cases, and one IAC. Four states have established multiple IACs. Alabama and Tennessee maintain separate courts for civil and criminal appeals, while Pennsylvania divides jurisdiction between its commonwealth court and its superior court on the basis of subject matter. New York divides jurisdiction between its two IACs primarily by the trial court from which the appeal is taken.

CHART 4: Appellate Case Filings, 1989



Total=229,571

Map 6 addresses the dimension of how states allocate mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction within their appellate systems. The District of Columbia and 8 of the 12 states with only one appellate court have both mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction. The COLRs in New Hampshire, West Virginia, and Wisconsin exercise full discretionary jurisdiction over their dockets, while all COLR filings in Nevada, North Dakota, and Wyoming are appeals of right (totally mandatory jurisdiction). States with IACs differ in how jurisdiction is allocated between the two appellate court levels. The court structure charts in Part IV of the report provide a point of reference for further distinguishing between appellate court structures.

The total of 229,571 appellate court case filings reported in 1989 is not definitive since there is both undercounting in some courts and double counting in others. Table 1, Part III (p. 60), reviews the quality of the caseload information used to generate the national totals. Other tables in Part III provide information on mandatory appeals, discretionary petitions, and opinions reported by state appellate courts, noting instances where court statistics are incomplete, overinclusive, or simultaneously incomplete and overinclusive. The most serious problem is counts that are overinclusive because discretionary petitions granted by the court cannot be separated from mandatory appeals.

The 1989 totals for the appellate courts of individual states can be found in Table 2, Part III (p. 62), which

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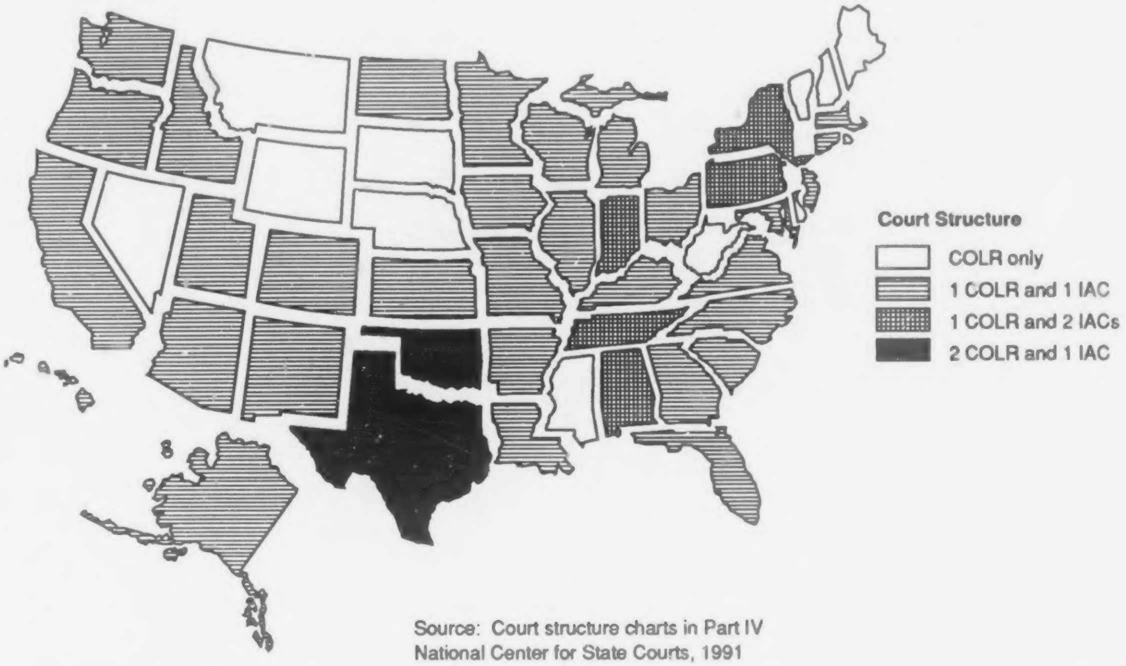
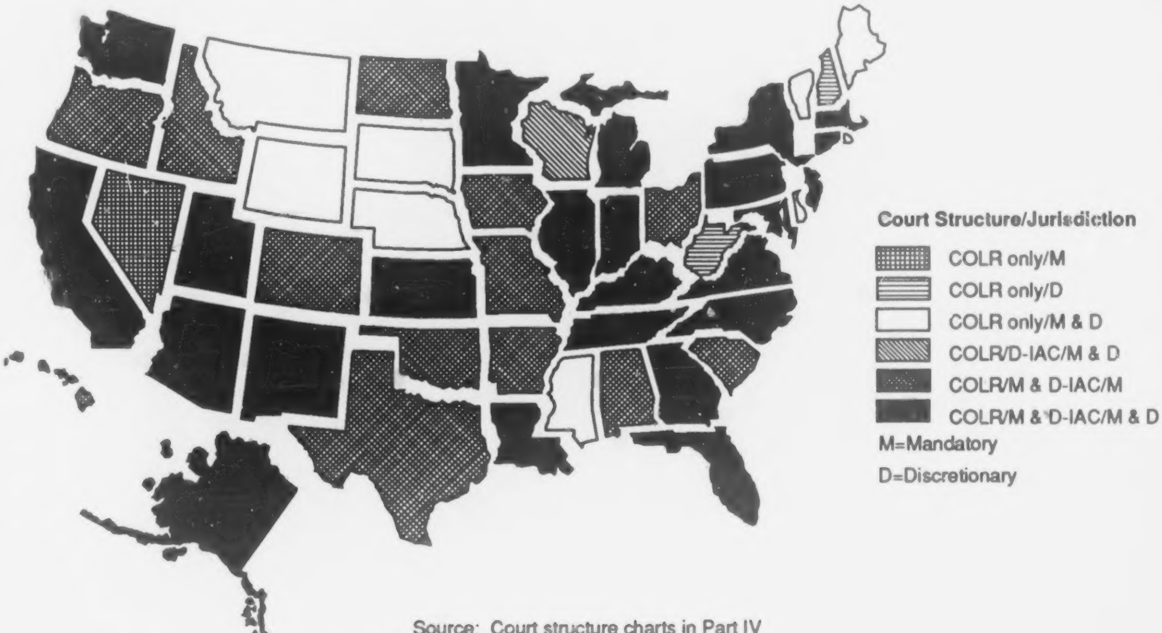
[39] This perspective has clearly applied with great force to the federal system. The U.S. circuit courts of appeals were established in 1891 as IACs on a regional basis and assumed much of the U.S. Supreme Court's mandatory caseload. The federal appellate system evolved subsequently through a series of significant transfers of mandatory appellate jurisdiction from the Supreme Court to the circuit courts of appeals. This culminated in Public Law 100-352 (Act of June 27, 1988, 102 Stat. 662), which "substantially eliminates the mandatory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court." Seven states had established an IAC before 1891: Illinois, Louisiana, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Washington, D.C.: Bureau of National Affairs, 1981, p. 9).

MAP 5: Appellate Court Structures, 1989



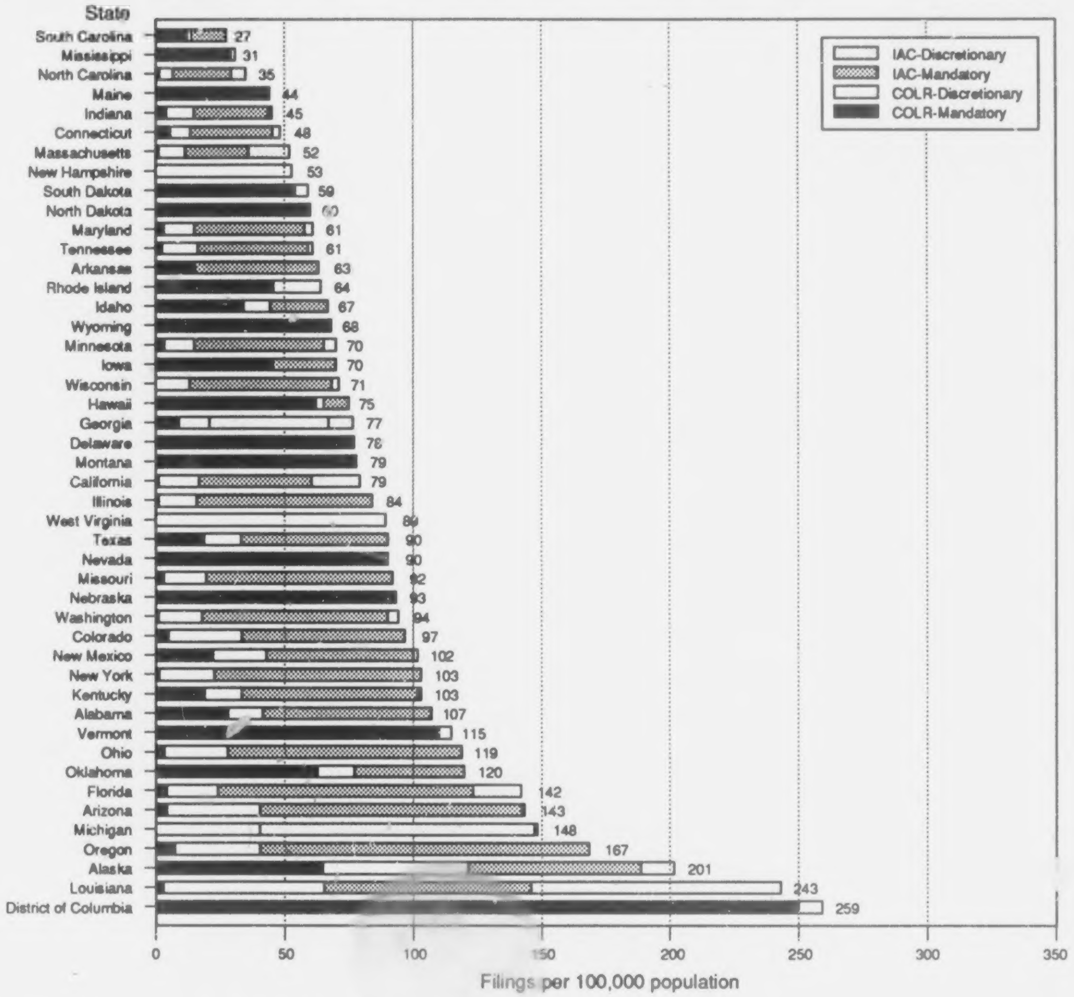
Source: Court structure charts in Part IV
National Center for State Courts, 1991

MAP 6: Appellate Court Caseload Jurisdiction, 1989



Source: Court structure charts in Part IV
National Center for State Courts, 1991

GRAPH 4: Total Appellate Filings per 100,000 Population, 1989



The following states are not included: KS, NJ, PA, PR, VA, UT

reports the number of mandatory appeals filed and disposed of, the number of petitions that were filed and disposed of, and the number of petitions granted (and previously granted petition dispositions). Tables 3 (Part III (p.76)), 4 (Part III (p. 82)), and 5 (Part III (p. 88)) report more detailed information on, respectively, mandatory appeals, discretionary petitions, and discretionary petitions granted. Table 6 (Part III (p. 94)) displays information on opinions reported by the state appellate courts. In all instances, states are listed according to their appellate structure. States with one COLR and one IAC are listed first, followed by states with only a COLR, and finally states with more than one COLR or IAC.

The text and graphics that follow describe and compare appellate caseloads reported by the states. The review begins with the big picture, comparing the size and composition of total state appellate caseloads.

The Composition of Appellate Court Caseloads in 1989

As a generalization, the substantial portion of the work of COLRs is to review petitions and then decide those petitions that were granted. Of every 100 cases filed in a state COLR, 63 were discretionary petitions. This contrasts with the IAC caseload, in which only 12 of every 100 filings were discretionary petitions. IACs are clearly the workhorses of state appellate systems. Three-quarters (75.8 percent) of appellate filings in states with both a COLR and an IAC went to the IAC.[40]

The issue next considered here is whether differences in appellate structure are associated with particular caseload patterns. Several interrelated questions revolve around this issue.

Are the caseloads of one-level appellate systems distinctive from other systems?

Does the generalization cited above on the respective role of COLRs and IACs in two-tier systems apply to all states or are other patterns identifiable?

Are states with multiple appellate courts at any level distinctive in the composition of their caseloads?

Such questions are important because the answers help determine when like is being compared with like in appellate systems. They also speak to whether appellate court reform has had its intended impact.

Graph 4 displays case filings per 100,000 population in the appellate courts of 45 states and the District of Columbia. The information used to generate the graph can be found in Table 2, Part III (p. 62). The two main conclusions that can be drawn from the information are that overall appellate caseloads are broadly similar across the states once adjusted for state population size and that particular appellate structures are not closely linked to high or low caseloads.[41]

States with only one appellate court are readily identified in Graph 4. The bar representing their case filings has either one or two sections. Filing rates per 100,000 population in those 11 states and the District of Columbia tend to be lower than in states with a two-level appellate system. The difference is not absolute. Nevada and Vermont have filing rates above the median, as do West Virginia (which has entirely discretionary jurisdiction) and the District of Columbia (which has the highest filing rate).

Appellate structure is more strongly associated with the composition of the appellate caseload. Two of the 12 states with only one appellate court have entirely mandatory jurisdiction (Nevada and Wyoming). Another four states (Delaware, Maine, Montana, and Nebraska) have allocated only minor discretionary jurisdiction to their appellate court. Thus, few discretionary petitions were filed in those courts. Filings in the appellate courts of the District of Columbia, Mississippi, South Dakota, and Vermont were overwhelmingly in the form of mandatory appeals. The COLRs in New Hampshire and West Virginia have solely discretionary jurisdiction, but most of the work of a COLR in a one-tier appellate system is to decide mandatory appeals.

Appellate filings in about half of the states with one COLR and one IAC conform to the standard perspective on appellate structure and jurisdiction. Filings in the COLR represent a small proportion of the state total and are mainly discretionary petitions, while filings in the IAC are primarily mandatory appeals.[42]

Six states offer a very different pattern, with most filings in the COLR rather than the IAC: Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Carolina. Alaska offers an example. In that state, 46 percent of mandatory appeals and 80 percent of discretionary petitions were filed in the COLR (Table 2, Part III (p. 62)). That concentration applies with particular force to those states in which the IAC hears cases on assignment from the COLR.[43]

Alabama and Tennessee have separate IACs for civil and criminal appeals. The 1989 caseload in Tennessee conforms to the most common pattern of a COLR with a limited share of the total caseload consisting mainly of discretionary petitions and an IAC with case filings in the form of mandatory appeals. The Alabama appellate caseload is more evenly divided between the two court levels and the majority of COLR cases and all of the IAC cases are mandatory appeals.

Texas has two COLRs, one with jurisdiction exclusively over criminal appeals. The combined COLR caseload is about one-half mandatory. In other respects, the pattern is similar to the most common one in that the vast majority of appellate filings are mandatory cases in the IAC.

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[40] A second appeal is possible in most states with a two-tier appellate system. This means that a case may be counted twice in a state's filing statistics, first as a mandatory appeal of the trial court judgement to the IAC and then as a petition for review by the COLR of an unfavorable IAC decision. One study concluded that between one-fifth and one-half of IAC decisions are appealed to the COLR but that few of those petitions are granted. See Stephen Wasby, Thomas Marvel, and Alexander Aikman, *Volume and Delay in State Appellate Courts: Problems and Responses*, Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1979, pp. 54-55.

[41] Graph 4 overstates the presence of mandatory appeals relative to discretionary petitions in appellate court caseloads. The footnotes to Table 2, Part III, indicate that the number of mandatory appeals is overinclusive, encompassing all discretionary petitions for these courts: Arkansas Supreme Court, Illinois Appellate Court, Iowa Supreme Court, Kansas Court of Appeals, Michigan Court of Appeals, Maine Supreme Judicial Court, Nebraska Supreme Court, New York Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, New York Terms of the Supreme Court, and the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals.

[42] This describes the appellate systems of Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin. The states of California, Georgia, Louisiana, Massachusetts, and North Carolina adhere to only part of the perspective. Discretionary petitions form a larger than typical share of IAC filings.

[43] All IAC filings in Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, and North Dakota are filed through assignment by the state COLR, while filings in the South Carolina IAC arrive both directly and through COLR assignment. The Alaska COLR has mandatory jurisdiction to hear civil appeals and discretionary jurisdiction over other appellate case types, while that state's IAC has mandatory jurisdiction over criminal cases but no jurisdiction in civil cases. In Oklahoma, all appeals in civil cases are directed to the supreme court, which then transfers cases to the court of appeals, the state's IAC. With the exception of Alaska, these states have relatively low rates of total appellate filings per 100,000 population.

There is much diversity in the composition of state appellate caseloads, reflecting in part, how states have responded to increases in the volume of case filings. The available statistical evidence suggests that state appellate caseloads doubled in the 1960s and then again in the 1970s and grew at a more modest pace in the 1980s.[44] Some states conform to the standard perspective on structuring and allocating jurisdiction to their appellate courts. Other patterns can be identified, however, even among states with two-tier systems. Local circumstances and needs shaped appellate court organization and subject matter jurisdiction in many states. For example, the bulk of the appellate burden remains on the COLR in some states (e.g. Alaska where the IAC has no civil jurisdiction); while other states (e.g. Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, South Carolina) retain substantial mandatory jurisdiction in their COLRs, which assign cases to the IAC; and still others allocate significant discretion to their IACs.

Reported filing levels also are influenced by court rules, definitions of appellate jurisdiction, methods of counting filings, the incidental appellate jurisdiction assigned to trial courts, and the rate at which trial court filings result in trials, and thus generate issues that can be the subject of an appeal, and the degree to which nontrial proceedings, such as guilty pleas or summary judgments, are subject to appeal. Variation in these factors will cause differences among states in filing rates.

The use of filing rates per 100,000 population facilitates comparisons but obscures the extraordinary concentration of appellate caseloads in a small number of states. More than one half of all appellate filings in 1989 (53.1 percent) were in these eight states: California, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, and Texas. To gauge the degree of concentration that this represents, it can be noted that those eight states account for 45.4 percent of the national population and 44.6 percent of appellate judgeships in that year. Consequently, although some states must cope with particularly large volumes of appeals, the appellate burden is not greatly disproportionate to those states' share of the national population. Because judgeships seem to be more closely distributed among states, according to population size than are appellate cases, the above eight states tend to have higher than typical rates of filings per judge, exacerbating the problems of large caseloads.

Further, the sheer volume of appellate cases in those states makes the prospect of expanding caseloads particularly worrisome. A parallel growth in judgeships, support staff, and courtrooms is not necessarily feasible or even desirable in the eight states. As the Federal Court Study Committee (1990, p. 6) observes, a court system "cannot cope with a surge in the 'demand' for its services in the way a business does" by raising the price for its products and expanding output. In particular, the nature of the work that courts perform imposes an upper limit on the size of the judiciary. The committee identifies the dilemma of responding to burgeoning federal court caseloads as:

> The more trial judges there are, the more appeals judges there must be; the more appeals judges there are, the higher the rate of appeal, because it becomes more difficult to predict the behavior of the appellate court; the more appeals there are, the more difficult it is for the Supreme Court to maintain some minimum uniformity of federal decisional law . . . (1990, p. 7).

The committee's analysis has particular relevance for states like California and New York, which have divided their intermediate appellate courts into regional districts or divisions. The more general applicability of the committee's analysis and concerns is difficult to determine from the available data.

The rest of the appellate caseload section considers, in turn, mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions. For mandatory appeals, the focus is on filing rates per 100,000 population, and dispositions as a percentage of filings (the clearance rate). For discretionary petitions, the topics covered include filing rates, petitions disposed as a percentage of petitions filed, and the percentage of petitions granted. The information on mandatory appeals and number of petitions is then brought together by adding the number of petitions granted during 1989 to the number of mandatory appeals filed, yielding a basic caseload measure for many appellate systems: the number of cases to be heard and decided on the merits. Appellate opinions are the final topic considered.

MANDATORY APPELLATE CASELOADS In 1989. States reported 167,797 mandatory appeals in 1989, 15 percent of which were filed in COLRs. Forty-eight states and the District of Columbia had appellate courts with mandatory jurisdiction.

Mandatory Appeals Filed In State Appellate Courts. **Graph 5** summarizes mandatory filings in 47 states and the District of Columbia, based on the information presented in Table 3, Part III (p. 76). Filings are expressed as rates per 100,000 population; COLR filings are differentiated from IAC filings. The resulting range is substantial, from 23 per 100,000 population in North Carolina to 251 per 100,000 population in the District of Columbia. The median rate is 71, with over one-half of the states (25 of 45) falling within a band that includes Kansas (53 filings per 100,000 population) and Nebraska (93 filings per 100,000 population). These constitute a broad middle range of states with roughly comparable levels of mandatory appeals.

There is no evident pattern linking filing rates to region, state population, or court structure. States without an IAC tend to be small, located in New England or the Great Plains; and tend to have a COLR with little or no discretionary jurisdiction. Yet, the 10 states meeting those criteria (excluding New Hampshire and West Vir-

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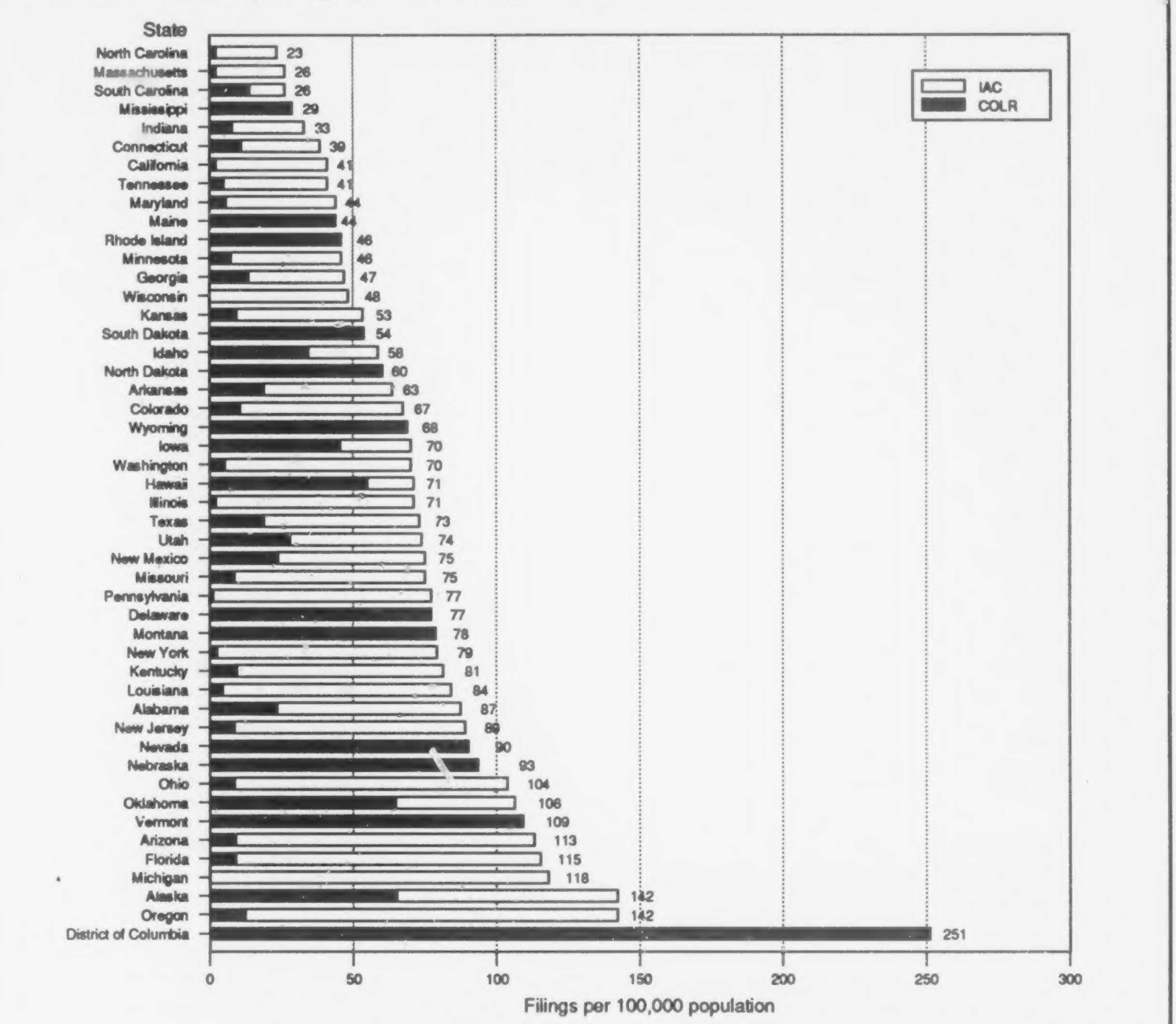
[44] "State appellate caseloads have, on the average, doubled every ten years since the Second World War." American Bar Association, Judicial Administration Division, *Standards Relating to Appellate Delay Reduction,* Chicago: American Bar Association, 1988, p. 11.

GRAPH 5: Mandatory Filings per 100,000 Population, 1989



The following states are not included: NH*, PR, VA, WV*.

* State does not have mandatory jurisdiction.

ginia which lack mandatory appellate jurisdiction) are scattered on the graph.[45]

Some of the rankings found in Graph 5 may be attributed to differences in the breadth of appellate court jurisdiction and to how cases are counted. The highest filing rate is in the District of Columbia, which has one appellate court, and that court has very limited discretionary jurisdiction. Of the seven other courts with filing rates above 100 per 100,000 population, two (Alaska and Oklahoma) retain substantial mandatory jurisdiction at the COLR level, one (Vermont) has no IAC, and the others conform to the conventional model of a two-tiered appellate system with limited COLR mandatory jurisdiction.

The underlying method of count also needs to be considered when comparing filing rates. Appeals in the California appellate courts, for example, are counted at the filing of the trial record, a point by which some appeals have been closed, and therefore not counted. Other

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[45] Mississippi (29), Rhode Island (46), and Maine (44) are at the low end; South Dakota (54), falls below the median rate of 71; Delaware, Montana, and Wyoming are located above the median; and Nebraska (93), Nevada (90), and Vermont (109) show rates considerably above the median.

TEXT TABLE 7: Appellate Court Clearance Rates for Mandatory Appeals, 1989

	Court of Last Resort				Intermediate Appellate Court		
State	**1989**	**1988**	**Difference**	**State**	**1989**	**1988**	**Difference**
Alabama	68.3	119.9	–51.6	Georgia	81.2	86.1	–4.9
Iowa	74.4	112.2	–37.8	Michigan	82.0	99.3	–17.2
Arizona	83.6	70.5	13.1	South Carolina	84.2	119.5	–35.4
Maine	83.7	96.0	–12.3	Indiana	88.0	93.0	–5.0
Nebraska	85.3	99.2	–13.9	Kentucky	89.9	84.2	5.7
Ohio	85.4	92.4	–7.0				
Rhode Island	87.0	98.3	–11.3	Washington	90.1	104.2	–14.1
Alaska	87.1	108.5	–21.4	Arizona	90.2	83.0	7.1
North Carolina	87.2	144.9	–57.7	Arkansas	90.6	92.0	–1.4
				Missouri	91.0	94.9	–3.8
Florida	90.3	104.7	–14.4	Alabama	91.3	101.6	–10.3
New Jersey	92.7	97.8	–5.0	Ohio	91.6	96.6	–5.0
Delaware	92.8	86.0	6.8	Illinois	94.9	94.2	.7
Idaho	94.8	86.9	7.9	Oregon	94.9	106.6	–11.7
Arkansas	95.0	114.3	–19.2	Texas	95.5	96.8	–1.3
North Dakota	96.0	110.4	–14.4	Oklahoma	97.4	89.2	8.2
Louisiana	97.2	108.9	–11.7	Maryland	98.4	100.5	–2.1
Minnesota	97.6	92.3	5.3	Hawaii	98.6	107.5	–8.9
Missouri	100.0	95.2	4.8	New Jersey	100.6	100.6	.0
Kentucky	100.3	117.1	–16.7	Florida	101.1	95.5	5.6
Vermont	100.8	95.6	5.2	Louisiana	102.4	86.4	15.9
Nevada	105.0	93.0	12.0	Wisconsin	102.5	110.3	–7.8
District of Columbia	105.5			Idaho	104.5	71.4	33.2
Maryland	107.8	75.6	32.2	Kansas	105.5	99.8	5.7
Texas	108.6	99.1	9.4	Minnesota	105.6	94.4	11.3
Mississippi	108.7	86.3	22.4	Alaska	106.7	92.6	14.0
Wyoming	113.1	93.6	19.5	Colorado	109.0	104.2	4.8
Hawaii	115.2	85.2	30.1	Connecticut	115.2	103.1	12.1
Indiana	124.4			Iowa	117.8	91.9	26.0
Illinois	124.8	103.3	21.5	New York	120.1	118.7	1.4
South Dakota	125.1	108.2	16.9	California	120.3	96.6	23.8
Washington	125.7	129.1	–3.3				

Note: A blank space indicates that a calculation is inappropriate for that year

Source: Tables 2 and 3, Part III

National Center for State Courts, 1991

states with low filing rates (Massachusetts, North Carolina, and South Carolina) also base their count on documents filed after the notice of appeal.

Clearance Rates for Mandatory Appeals. Appellate courts that disposed of more cases than were filed during 1989 reduced their pending caseloads. Cases disposed during 1989 could have been filed in previous years. **Text Table 7** combines the relevant 1989 information from Table 3, Part III (p. 76), with the corresponding data from 1988, allowing a two-year comparison of clearance rates for each COLR and each IAC. States are listed from lowest to highest 1989 clearance rates.

A clearance rate could be calculated for COLRs in 31 states and for the IACs in 30 states. In COLRs the percentages range from a low of 68.3 percent in Alabama to a high of 125.7 percent in Washington. COLRs in 14 states are reducing their pending caseload (reporting clearance rates of 100 percent or greater) in 1989. This is a slight improvement over 1988, when only 12 kept pace with the flow of new mandatory appeal filings.

Mandatory clearance rates reported by IACs are roughly similar to that of COLRs. The percentages range from 81.2 percent in Georgia to 120.3 percent in California. In 1989, 13 IACs reported clearance rates in excess of 100 percent, which is a slight improvement over the 11 IACs that reduced their pending caseloads in 1988.

DISCRETIONARY APPELLATE CASELOADS IN 1989. This section examines the 61,774 petitions that were filed in state appellate courts. More than two-thirds (70 percent) of those petitions were filed in a COLR.

In state courts, "appellate capacity at an intermediate level does not always spawn discretionary review at the top, as it did in the federal system."[46] State COLRs often retain substantial mandatory jurisdiction and IACs often have discretionary jurisdiction. Thus, the division between the work of COLRs and IACs is not as clear in most states as in the federal appellate system.

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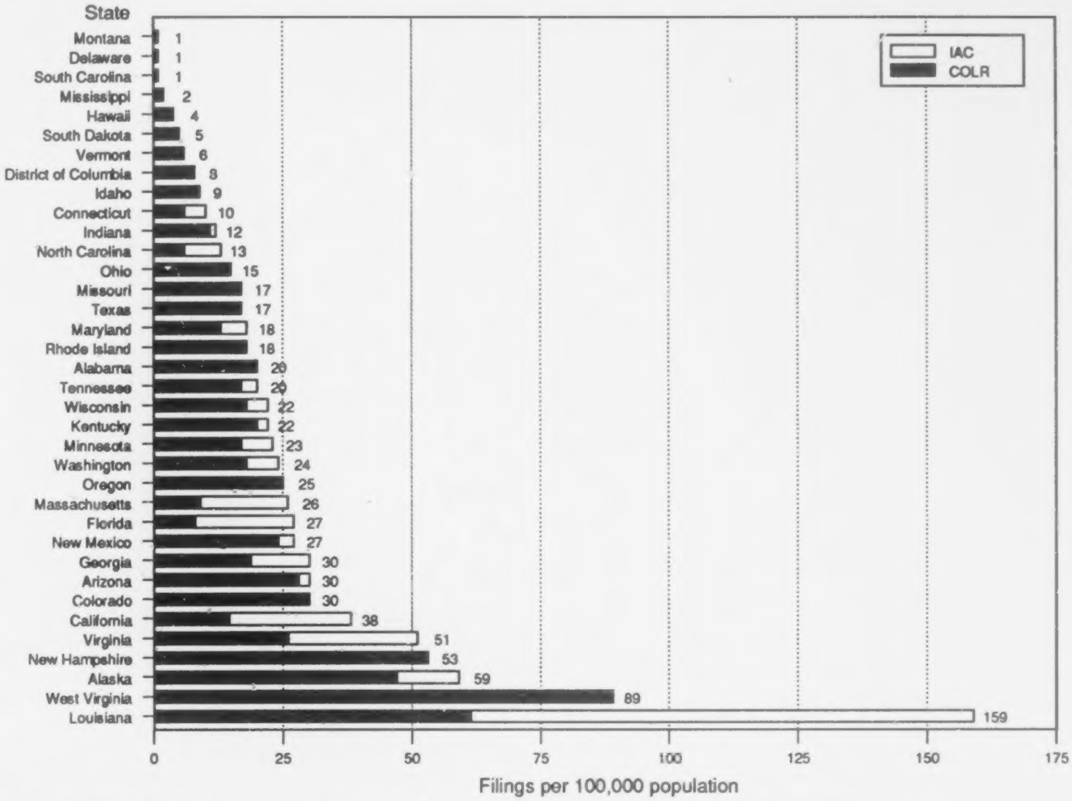
[46] Doris Marie Provine, "Certiorari" in R. Janosik (ed.), *Encyclopedia of the American Judicial Process*. New York: Scribners, p. 783-784.

GRAPH 6: Discretionary Filings per 100,000 Population, 1989



The following states are not included: AR, IL, IA, KS, ME, MI, NE, NV*, NJ, NY, ND, OK, PA, PR, UT, WY*.

* State does not have discretionary jurisdiction.

Appellate courts vary in the procedures for deciding which petitions to accept for consideration. In 31 states, a decision to grant review in the COLR requires an affirmative vote by a majority of the members of the full court or of the panel, whichever is used to review petitions. In the remaining COLRs with discretionary jurisdiction, a minority (in several courts a single justice) of the members of the court or of a panel can grant a petition.

The next section considers the number of petitions filed per 100,000 state population, clearance rates for petitions, and the percentage of petitions that were granted.

Discretionary Petitions Filed. The number of petitions filed in each appellate court with discretionary jurisdiction can be found in Table 4, Part III (p. 82). **Graph 6** summarizes that information for 35 states and the District of Columbia. The remaining states either lack discretionary jurisdiction or did not provide the relevant data for all courts with discretionary jurisdiction.

The median filing rate is 20 per 100,000 population. Filing rates range from less than one filing per 100,000 in Montana, Delaware, and South Carolina to a high of 159 per 100,000 population in Louisiana. Louisiana and West Virginia are distinct. Their appellate court filing rates lie considerably above the filing rate found in the state with the third highest rate, Alaska (59 per 100,000 population). Louisiana (159 per 100,000 population), which allocates substantial discretionary jurisdiction to both its COLR and IAC, and West Virginia (89 per 100,000 population), a one-court appellate system without mandatory jurisdiction, stand far above other states in the magnitude of their discretionary petition caseloads.

There is greater uniformity among the states in discretionary filing rates than for rates of mandatory appeals. States fall into four main categories: those with discretionary filing rates of less than 10 petitions per 100,000 population (nine states); those with filing rates between 10 and 20 petitions per 100,000 population (eight); those with filing rates between 20 and 30 petitions per 100,000 population (thirteen states); and those with filing rates in excess of 38 petitions per 100,000 (6 states).

IACs receive more discretionary petitions than the COLRs in California, Florida, and Louisiana. A substantial proportion of all discretionary petitions were filed in the IACs of Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia. The

TEXT TABLE 8: Discretionary Petitions Decided as a Percentage of Petitions Filed, 1989

	Court of Last Resort		
State	1989	1988	Difference
Mississippi	74.4		
Ohio	81.4	91.6	-10.2
New York	82.1	79.3	2.8
Delaware	83.3	75.0	8.3
Kentucky	85.6	98.8	-13.3
Florida	86.9	108.4	-21.5
North Carolina	88.8	114.3	-25.5
Wisconsin	89.5	94.6	-5.1
New Hampshire	90.6	107.7	-17.1
Maryland	90.8	113.8	-23.0
New Mexico	94.0		
Rhode Island	94.4	94.2	.2
Louisiana	94.8	83.4	11.4
Illinois	95.3	95.1	.1
Minnesota	96.1	90.0	6.0
Idaho	96.7	110.5	-13.8
Alaska	96.8	104.5	-7.7
Arizona	99.1	88.9	10.2
New Jersey	99.3	103.2	-3.9
District of Columbia	100.0	106.6	-6.6
Washington	101.0	111.5	-10.6
Missouri	101.6	100.8	.9
Vermont	102.9	100.0	2.9
Oregon	103.4	101.6	1.8
California	105.4	93.1	12.3
West Virginia	105.5	109.5	-4.0
Indiana	106.0		
Hawaii	107.1	93.3	13.8
Texas	109.8	98.0	11.8
Virginia	114.4	115.0	-.6
Alabama	137.0	78.8	58.1

	Intermediate Appellate Court		
State	1989	1988	Difference
Wisconsin	77.5	71.1	6.4
Florida	83.8	80.5	3.3
Georgia	87.3	95.3	-8.0
Alaska	90.3	106.5	-16.1
Indiana	93.8		
Washington	95.9	104.3	-8.4
Minnesota	95.9	99.7	-3.8
Louisiana	98.8	98.1	.7
Kentucky	100.0	83.7	16.3
Maryland	100.0	100.0	0
North Carolina	100.0	100.0	0
California	101.5	104.7	-3.2
Arizona	101.9	105.0	-3.1

Note: A blank space indicates that a calculation is in appropriate for that year

Source: Tables 2 and 4. Part III

National Center for State Courts, 1991

filing rates in all of those states, except North Carolina, are above the median of 20 per 100,000 population.

There is a relationship between the size of mandatory and discretionary caseloads. This is manifest at the high and low ends of the rankings. Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, and Oregon have both high mandatory and high discretionary filing rates. Some of the states at the low end of the range for discretionary filings simply lack significant jurisdiction for discretionary petitions. However, Connecticut, Mississippi, and South Carolina, have low filing rates for both mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions.

Clearance Rates for Discretionary Petitions. **Text Table 8** provides information on discretionary petitions that were decided during 1989 as a percentage of those filed during the year (derived from Table 4, Part III (p. 82)), as well as the corresponding information from 1988. Comparable filing and disposition data are available for COLRs of 31 states.

The lowest clearance rate in a COLR is 74.4 percent, reported by the COLR in Mississippi, and the highest is 137.0 percent reported by the COLR in Alabama. Just over one-third (12 of 31) of COLRs reported disposing of more petitions in 1989 than were filed. This is a slight decline from the number of COLRs with clearance rates in excess of 100 percent reported in 1988. Generally, pending discretionary caseloads in COLRs changed during 1989 at the same pace as pending caseloads of mandatory appeals.

The Supreme Court of Virginia substantially reduced its pending caseload in both 1988 and 1989. That success is the result of a backlog reduction program begun by the court in 1987. At the beginning of the delay reduction program, there were 302 cases waiting to be argued and 738 petitions for appeal pending in the court. The clearance rates were sufficient to reduce the number of cases waiting to 82, the lowest number since 1973, and the number of petitions pending to 423.[47]

Discretionary clearance rates in IACs are available in 13 states. IACs of five states are reporting clearance rates of 100 percent or greater and are thereby reducing their pending caseloads. These results are nearly identical to what the IACs experienced in 1988. In fact, the actual clearance rate levels varied little between the two years, with four of the states that reported clearance rates in excess of 100 percent in 1988 also reporting rates exceeding 100 percent in 1989.

Discretionary Petitions Granted. The U.S. Supreme Court accepts for review about 5 percent of the discretionary petitions filed.[48] State COLRs tend to accept a larger percentage of petitions filed. On average during 1989, state COLRs granted 14.3 percent of the discretionary petitions filed.

That percentage is derived from **Text Table 9**, which shows the number of petitions filed, the number and the percentage granted, for the COLRs of 22 states. The percentage granted ranges from the low of 2.4 percent in Michigan to a high of 36.1 percent in West Virginia. Where an IAC has been established, the precise boundaries of the COLR's jurisdiction become important to understanding the flow of cases to the COLR and,

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[47] Office of the Executive Secretary, The Supreme Court of Virginia, *1989 Virginia State of the Judiciary Report*, 1990, p. A-20.

[48] Provine, *supra* note 46, p. 783.

TEXT TABLE 9: Discretionary Petitions Granted as a Percentage of Total Discretionary Cases Filed in COLRs, 1989

State	Number of Petitions Filed	Number of Petitions Granted	Percentage of Petitions Granted
Alaska	251	45	17.9
District of Columbia	49	5	10.2
Hawaii	42	13	31.0
Illinois	1,558	136	8.7
Kansas	526	108	20.5
Louisiana	2,776	623	22.4
Maryland	598	91	15.2
Massachusetts	592	209	35.3
Michigan	2,805	68	2.4
Minnesota	711	130	18.3
Mississippi	43	6	14.0
Missouri	857	79	9.2
New Mexico	366	27	7.4
North Carolina	447	68	15.2
Ohio	1,686	161	9.5
Oregon	709	101	14.2
Pennsylvania	2,227	230	10.3
Tennessee	820	64	7.8
Texas	2,921	322	11.0
Virginia	1,573	321	20.4
West Virginia	1,644	593	36.1
Wisconsin	896	90	10.0

Source: Tables 2, 4, and 5, Part III
National Center for State Courts, 1991

TEXT TABLE 10: Mandatory Appeals Filed and Discretionary Petitions Granted per 100,000 Population, 1989

States with one COLR and one IAC	
North Carolina	24.3
South Carolina	27.2
California	44.0
Maryland	45.8
Minnesota	51.4
North Dakota	60.2
Hawaii	72.2
Missouri	76.8
New Mexico	77.7
Ohio	105.1
Louisiana	128.9
Oregon	145.9
States with no IAC	
West Virginia	31.9
Wyoming	67.7
Nevada	89.9
District of Columbia	251.7
States with multiple COLRs	
Texas	74.4

Source: Tables 2, 3, and 5, Part III
National Center for State Courts, 1991

possibly, the percentage of petitions that are granted. For example, the types of cases that would go to the IAC in Michigan are filed instead in the COLR in West Virginia, where no IAC has been established and the Supreme Court has full discretion over its docket.

The two Texas COLRs, one for civil and one for criminal cases, granted 11 percent of the total discretionary petitions filed. The Texas Supreme Court, which hears appeals on civil matters, received three mandatory appeals and 1,129 discretionary petitions, granting 9.3 percent of the petitions. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals received 3,504 mandatory appeals and 1,792 discretionary petitions, granting 13.7 percent of the petitions. The Texas IAC has exclusively mandatory jurisdiction, and recorded 8,813 filings. These caseload statistics are taken from Table 2, Part III (p. 62), and the jurisdictional information from the court structure charts in Part IV.

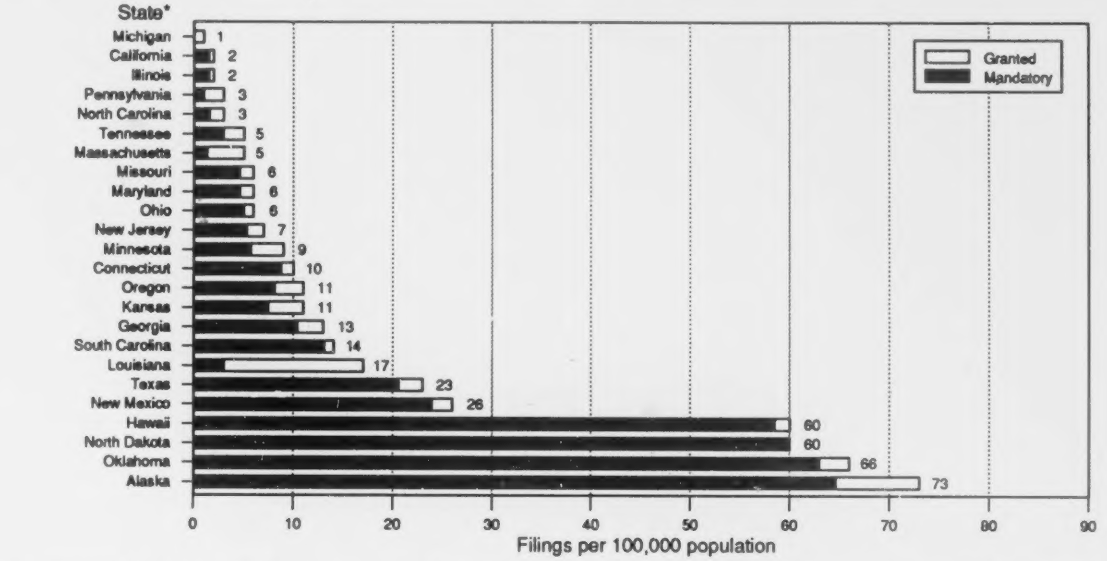
IACs with discretionary jurisdiction tend to grant a higher percentage of petitions than is the practice in their state COLR or in COLRs generally. Table 2, Part III (p. 62), provides information on the percentage of discretionary petitions granted in seven IACs: California Courts of Appeal, 8.6 percent; Indiana Court of Appeals, 51.3 percent; Louisiana Courts of Appeal, 29.3 percent; Maryland Court of Special Appeals, 10 percent; Minnesota Court of Appeals, 35 percent; New Mexico Court of Appeals, 23.4 percent; and North Carolina Court of Appeals, 15.9 percent. With the exception of Maryland, the IAC grants a higher percentage of discretionary petitions filed than does the state COLR. The comparison is inexact, however, as IAC discretionary jurisdiction is often over interlocutory matters, rather than appeals of final judgement.

Discretionary jurisdiction enables appellate courts to control their dockets. Although courts are generally selective in the petitions that are granted, the use of discretion is exercised differently among the states. IACs also exercise discretionary power differently than COLRs, reflecting their respective roles in state appellate systems and, perhaps, the capacity of IACs to expand the number of authorized judgeships in the face of rising caseloads.

MANDATORY APPEALS AND PETITIONS GRANTED IN 1989. Appellate courts decide two primary types of cases: mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions that have been granted. Courts differ in the process through which discretionary petitions are reviewed, resulting in varying workload implications for the court and its justices. Therefore, the most comparable and perhaps most important index of the work carried out by state appellate courts in 1989 is the total number of mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions granted. This is the pool of cases that the courts will decide on the merits.

The number of relevant cases can be calculated for appellate courts in 17 states using information in Table 5, Part III (p. 88). **Text Table 10** displays filings per 100,000

GRAPH 7: Mandatory Filings and Petitions Granted per 100,000 Population in COLRs, 1989



The following states are not included: AL, AZ, AR, CO, FL, ID, IN, IA, KY, NY, OK, UT, VA, WA, WI.

* Graph displays only those states with a COLR and an IAC.

population of mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions that were subsequently granted. States are grouped according to their appellate structure. The filing rate includes all mandatory appeals and all discretionary petitions that were subsequently granted.

Filing rates range from 24.3 in North Carolina to 145.9 in Oregon for states with one COLR and one IAC. Most of the filings in Louisiana and Oregon were in the IAC. Contrasting the filing rates from these courts with those with either no IAC or multiple COLRs does not appear to show any systemic variation. The 1989 filing rates parallel those found for 1988 (Text Table 4, p. 13, *State Court Caseload Statistics: 1988 Annual Report*). State filing rates do not, however, appear to reflect the type of appellate court structure a state has adopted and the ranking of states essentially parallels that found for the rate of mandatory appeals per 100,000 population (see Graph 5).

Graph 7 focuses on the COLRs in states with at least one IAC. Filings that will be decided on the merits range from less than one per 100,000 population in Michigan to 73 per 100,000 population in Alaska. Granted petitions constitute the majority of cases decided by the COLRs of Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. In Illinois, the number of appeals and the number of granted petitions are nearly equivalent.

Caseloads are presented as filings per 100,000 population. While facilitating comparisons among the states, it is not the measure of greatest weight for the justices or clerks of those courts. Rates based on filings per justice/judge, presented in Tables 2-5, Part III, are perhaps more responsive to the immediate concerns of those working in appellate courts. The next subsection examines a particular aspect of appellate court workload: written opinions.

APPELLATE COURT OPINIONS IN 1989. The preparation of full written opinions "has been called the single most time-consuming task in the appellate process."[49] Rising appellate caseloads have led to both curtailment of the issuance of full opinions to decide cases and to concern over the availability of sufficient judicial time to prepare full opinions in important cases.

Table 6, Part III (p. 94), presents the number of signed opinions issued by state appellate courts during 1989. The table also provides supplementary information that describes whether the count is by case or by written document and whether majority opinions, per curiam opinions, and memorandums/orders are included in the count. Information is also provided on the number of justices or judges serving on each court and the number of support staff with legal training that the court employs. The number of justices or judges is particularly significant, as appellate courts, and especially IACs, vary greatly in size. COLRs vary from five (in 19 states) to nine justices (in 7 states). IACs range in size from three judges (in Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, and Idaho) to the 88-judge California Courts of Appeal.

The restricted size of COLRs and the nature of their responsibilities tend to limit the number of signed opinions to several hundred in a year in most jurisdictions (the

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[49] American Bar Association, Judicial Administration Division, *supra* note 44, p. 21.

U.S. Supreme Court typically decides about 150 cases a year by opinion).[50] Generally, courts can determine how they decide cases, whether by full explanatory opinion, per curiam opinion, or by order, and thus control their workload. Therefore, the number of signed opinions is not directly related to the number of cases decided by the court on the merits during 1989. Among COLRs, the number of signed opinions ranges from 65 in Delaware to 751 in Alabama.

IACs vary considerably in the number of signed opinions issued during 1989. The highest number of opinions reported was 9,483 by the California Courts of Appeal. The IACs in Florida, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas reported more than 4,000 signed opinions.

Appellate courts decide appeals in other ways that also state the facts of the case and reasons for the court's decision. These include memorandum decisions, which are signed, and per curiam opinions, which are not signed and are generally very brief, but in some appellate courts they state the court's reasoning. What differentiates a signed opinion from a memorandum decision varies among appellate courts. All published opinions are designated memorandum decisions by some courts and are counted separately from the signed opinions shown in Table 6, Part III. Other courts merge memorandum decisions with the count of signed opinions. Therefore, despite their significance, statistics on opinions are the least comparable element to appellate court caseloads.

Appellate Courts in 1989: A Summary

Nationally, there were 3.5 percent more appellate filings in 1989 than in 1988. Of course, this does not mean that filings in all courts increased; rather, more COLRs and IACs reported increases than reported decreases. The general increase, based on courts reporting comparable data in the two years, should be viewed in the context of increasing appellate caseloads over the past three decades.

The combined state court appellate filings in 1989 consisted of 11 percent mandatory appeals to COLRs, 19 percent discretionary petitions to COLRs, 62 percent mandatory appeals to IACs, and 8 percent discretionary petitions to IACs.

Most two-tier appellate systems conformed to the pattern in which the COLR controls its docket through discretionary jurisdiction and most mandatory appeals are heard in an IAC. There are a number of states to which that pattern does not apply. In some states, the COLR continues to hear and decide most of the filings, often in the form of mandatory appeals. The IACs in these and other states have been allocated significant discretionary jurisdiction.

The rate at which appeals are filed per 100,000 population varies substantially among the states. When mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions are examined separately, however, there is a large middle ground of states with broadly similar filing rates. Differences in appellate procedure and jurisdiction are shown in the percentages by which courts grant discretionary petitions. Generally, IACs grant a higher percentage of petitions than do COLRs, but information on the number of petitions granted is not made available by most appellate courts.

Appellate courts in most states disposed of more cases in 1989 than were filed during the year. A case disposed of in 1989 could, of course, have originated in a filing several years previously. Appellate courts that report clearance rates of less than 100 percent accumulated a larger pending caseload during 1989 and cases must be heard and decided more expeditiously in 1990 and subsequent years if these courts are to remain current.

Conclusion

The commentary in Part I has three main objectives. The first is to describe the work of state court systems, identifying similarities and differences. The second is to relate the similarities and differences to the manner in which states organize their court systems and to other state characteristics. The third is to use 1989 state court caseload statistics to address topics of current interest to the court community.

There was broad similarity among trial court systems in civil cases filed per 100,000 state population. Rates of criminal case filings were more varied, but a middle range could be identified. State trial court systems differed markedly in the rate at which juvenile petitions were filed during 1989. Compared to civil and criminal cases, the variation in juvenile filings was substantial. States also differed in the use being made of general and limited jurisdiction courts to hear cases.

For civil, criminal, and juvenile cases, states shared problems of growing pending caseloads. Fewer cases were disposed of than were filed. The resulting problems in most states are particularly acute for criminal and juvenile cases, and less evident for civil cases.

Similarities among appellate court systems include the rates of filing for both mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions, which clustered around the medians. Most appellate courts reported success in keeping pace with flow of new case filings and reduced the size of their pending caseloads during 1989.

Differences in appellate court systems include the extent to which filings take the form of mandatory appeals or of discretionary petitions and the percentage of discretionary petitions that are granted. Most, but not all, two-tier appellate systems conform to the pattern in which the COLR has discretionary control of its docket and the IAC hears mandatory appeals.

Many of the similarities and differences stem from the manner in which states allocate the jurisdiction to hear and decide cases to their trial and appellate courts. Differences in court structure, however, are not systematically related to either filing or clearance rates. Trial courts in a one-tier system, for example, are not more or less likely than courts in a two-tier system to keep pace with incoming caseloads. Some of the observed differences could be traced to how states categorize and count cases. On balance, however, the rankings of states can be taken as indicating real differences in the rate at which new cases are being filed and success in keeping pace with the flow of new cases.

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[50] The U.S. Supreme Court disposed of 156 cases by signed opinion (133 consolidated opinions) and 12 cases by per curiam opinion (statistics supplied by the Office of the Clerk, Supreme Court of the United States).

Court filing and court clearance rates do not form clear regional patterns. Nor is there clear evidence linking court caseloads to the state population size or to other state characteristics. It is possible, of course, that subtle patterns exist that would only emerge through more elaborate comparisons than were possible in this commentary.

Two topics of special interest are addressed in Part I. First, after noting the broad similarity in the rate at which total civil cases were filed per 100,000 population, the question was examined of whether this implied that state courts faced a similar mix of types of civil cases. Five states with total civil filings near the median were selected for scrutiny. Although small claims procedures and domestic relations cases tended to dominate the civil caseload, these case types were eclipsed in some states by contract, real property rights, or estate cases. In sum, similar civil caseload levels, as measured by filing rates per 100,000 population, do not mean that the specific case types that form the total are equally prevalent across courts.

The second topic is the relative workloads of the state and federal trial court systems. This inquiry was spurred by the recent proposal in the *Report of the Federal Courts Study Committee* that the state courts assume responsibility for most diversity and drug cases now handled by the federal courts. The analysis, structured so as to maximize caseload and jurisdictional comparability, compares the combined workload of the U.S. district courts with that faced individually by the general jurisdiction court systems in California, Michigan, North Carolina, and Oregon. Although the U.S. district courts handle a larger number of civil cases than all but the general jurisdiction court of California, civil caseloads *per judge* are far smaller in the U.S. district courts than in any of the four states examined. The differentials are more pronounced when felony caseloads are considered. The combined U.S. district courts have smaller felony caseloads than three of the four states studied, and substantially smaller caseload when viewed on a per judge basis. While as a matter of principle the state courts may be the appropriate forum for diversity and drug cases, implementing the proposed shift presents obvious problems given the relative sizes of the caseloads currently before state as opposed to federal courts.

PART 2

CASELOAD TRENDS: 1984-89

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Introduction

Part II offers additional commentary on the state courts but switches the point of view from how caseloads differ among the states to how caseloads are changing over time. Specifically, 1984-89 trends in trial court filings are examined for felony cases and for the major civil case categories of torts, contracts, and real property rights, while trends in mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions are examined for appellate courts.

Trends offer perspective by indicating whether 1989 state court caseloads are located in a period of stability or flux. Further, trends inform whether caseload growth or decline is consistent among the states and across types of cases. Recent studies of the federal courts point to the complex nature of caseload trends. Federal court caseloads have risen significantly at the appellate level in recent decades but only modestly at the trial court level.[1] In recent years, civil caseloads in federal courts have tended to decline slightly at both levels, although there has been dramatic growth in contract case filings.[2]

Trends also allow an appraisal of whether the rankings of states by trial court and appellate court filing rates as reported in Part I are being greatly affected by short-term or even random factors or are the product of fundamental state characteristics such as legal systems, economies, and demographics. Moreover, trend analysis mitigates some of the limitations to making caseload comparisons. In a trend analysis, each state can serve as its own baseline by reference to the size of its 1984 caseload. States tend to retain their systems for classifying and counting caseloads, reducing concern over the impact of units of count, points of count, and the composition of specific caseload categories. Then, when sharp fluctuations do occur from one year to the next in a state's caseload, the change can often be linked to specific alterations in state law, procedure, or recordkeeping.

The baseline used for this section is the caseload reported by state trial courts in 1984.[3] Felony, tort, contract, and real property rights cases are the focus because those cases tend to consume more court resources than other case categories and to speak directly to the concerns and questions court managers, legislators, and the public have about the work of the state courts.

Caseload data are taken from the *State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report* series, 1984 to 1989. Only states that reported statistics in comparable terms over the full six-year time span are included. Thus, states that have upgraded their data collection capabilities recently may have relevant statistics in the 1989 report but be excluded from the trend analysis.

Trends in Trial Court Case Filings, 1984-89

Trends in Felony Case Filings, 1984-89

Felonies are serious criminal offenses. Typically, a felony is an offense for which the minimum prison sentence is one year or more.[4] States use different criteria when distinguishing a felony from other offenses, but felony case filings always include the most serious offenses and exclude minor offenses.

Comparable felony filing data for the period 1984 to 1989 can be obtained from 32 statewide general jurisdiction trial court systems, as well as for the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The number of felony cases filed annually in each court system is detailed in Table 15, Part III. The combined felony caseloads of the 34 jurisdictions rose by nearly half again between 1984 and 1989. **Chart 1** depicts the trend that links the filing levels in those two years. Felony filings grew from 689,718 filings in 1984 to 1,032,053 in 1989. The largest year-to-year change was in 1988-89, when filings rose by 13 percent (see Table 15, Part III).

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[1] Dungworth, Terrence and Nicholas M. Pace, *Statistical Overview of Civil Litigation in the Federal Courts*, Santa Monica, CA: RAND Institute for Civil Justice, 1990 and *Report of the Federal Court Study Committee*, 1990.

[2] Marc Galanter, "The Life and Times of the Big Six; or, The Federal Courts Since the Good Old Days." 6 *Wisconsin Law Review* 942-46 (1988).

[3] The caseload statistics series published by the National Center for State Courts begins in 1975. However, the period 1984 to 1989 is the longest continuous time span for which caseload data comparable to that reported in this volume can be obtained for a significant number of general jurisdiction courts. The only other annual series on state court caseloads was collected and published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The last volume in that series reported 1946 statistics.

[4] Wayne Logan, Lindsay Stellwagen, and Patrick Langan, *Felony Sentencing Law of the 50 States and the District of Columbia, 1986*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Deparment of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics (NCJ-105066), 1988.

Text Table 1 summarizes the experiences over those years of general jurisdiction courts in each jurisdiction. To help trace the year-to-year changes as well as to gauge the overall 1984-89 change, 1984 caseload levels have been set equal to 100. The overall change in population experienced by the jurisdiction is also expressed as an index with the 1984 adult population set at 100 to allow a simple test of whether filings are growing at a faster rate than state population.

The trend over the second half of the 1980s is clear: felony filings are increasing and increasing substantially in the general jurisdiction courts of most states. Felony caseloads grew in 33 of the 34 jurisdictions examined, with increases ranging from a modest 5 percent in Hawaii to a 102 percent increase in the District of Columbia. Felony case filings grew by 50 percent or more in Arizona, California, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Texas, and Washington. West Virginia was the only jurisdiction in which fewer felony cases were filed in 1989 than in 1984, as shown in the decline in the index from 100 to 84. The pervasiveness of caseload growth is evident in that of the 170 possible annual changes (34 jurisdictions multiplied by five year-to-year caseload changes), 143 were upward and 27 were downward.

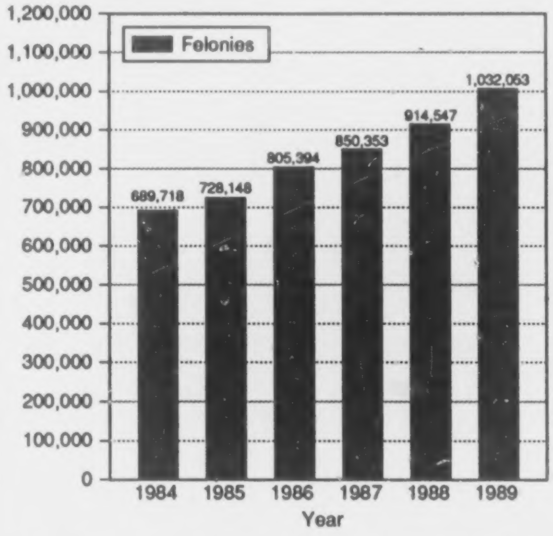
Several types of trends can be identified for felony cases. First, continuous and often substantial increases were recorded by 13 jurisdictions. Texas is an example. The index numbers for that state translate into successive percentage rises of 8 percent (1984-85), 18 percent, 7 percent, 3 percent, and 14 percent (1988-89). Texas is joined by Arizona, California, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Indiana, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington in establishing a clear upward trend.

Second, substantial increases were recorded after 1986 or 1987 in Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin. Initially, those states either registered small decreases or increases that were generally inconsistent in direction.

Third, filing levels may have peaked in some states in 1986 or 1987, since the number of cases remains at that level for the two subsequent years. This is a plausible scenario for Arkansas, North Dakota, and Vermont. It also seems to apply to Puerto Rico.

Hawaii and West Virginia are distinctive. Hawaii's filing level only rose above the 1984 baseline in one year—1989. West Virginia is the only jurisdiction in which there was a downward trend to felony case filings. In sum, felony caseloads are clearly increasing, rapidly in some states. Most states with relevant data, which were drawn from all regions of the country, demonstrate an unambiguous pattern of rising felony case filings.

CHART 1: Felony Filings, 1984–1989



Felony totals refer only to courts listed in Table 15 (Part III).

Trends in Civil Filings, 1984-89

TORTS. Torts are allegations of injury or wrong committed either against a person or against a person's property by a party who either failed to do something that they were obligated to do or did something that they were obligated not to do.[5] Caseload statistics reports for 1985, 1986, and 1987 contained a separate section devoted to trends in tort litigation and the 1988 *Report* incorporated trends into its Part I commentary. This year selected indicators of trends in torts and general civil case filings (tort, contract, and real property rights cases) are updated and the 1984-89 trend interpreted.

Comparable tort filing data can be obtained from 20 general jurisdiction courts (19 states and Puerto Rico) for the 1984 to 1989 period. Information on filings in the limited jurisdiction courts of four states and Puerto Rico are also shown. The actual number of tort filings per year are detailed in Table 16, Part III. **Text Table 2** summarizes that information by using index numbers to express the change in tort filings experienced by each court.

Although only 19 states and Puerto Rico have their general jurisdiction court represented in Text Table 2, the consistency present suggests a national pattern. Specifically, there is consistency in the timing of upward and downward fluctuations. Filing rates tended to increase in 1985 and again in 1986. Between 1984 and 1985, 14 of 20 states registered increases in the tort filings in their general jurisdiction trial court. Between 1985 and 1986, 17 of 20 states registered an increase. This upward trend seemed to be leveling off in that the changes between 1986 and 1987 (ten increases; ten decreases) and between 1987 and 1988 (nine increases; ten decreases;

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[5] Conference of State Court Administrators and National Center for State Courts, *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary: 1989 Edition*, Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1989.

TEXT TABLE 1: Trends in Felony Filings, 1984–1989

General Jurisdiction Courts

State	Felony Index 1984	Felony Index 1985	Felony Index 1986	Felony Index 1987	Felony Index 1988	Felony Index 1989	Adult Population Growth 1984 to 1989
Arizona	100	113	134	140	144	156	117
Arkansas	100	119	122	138	123	138	104
California	100	111	127	141	155	178	113
Colorado	100	107	109	110	118	130	106
Connecticut	100	108	116	129	160	160	103
District of Columbia	100	117	153	189	203	202	95
Hawaii	100	97	96	93	98	105	110
Illinois	100	100	102	101	126	150	103
Indiana	100	109	135	145	156	194	104
Iowa	100	104	100	107	113	137	100
Kansas	100	92	97	101	107	111	104
Kentucky	100	96	96	82	90	103	103
Maine	100	115	112	113	115	130	108
Minnesota	100	108	112	124	137	137	106
Missouri	100	101	108	115	122	132	104
Montana	100	108	109	103	115	114	100
New Hampshire	100	110	127	145	159	173	114
New Jersey	100	102	104	111	118	[illegible]	104
New York	100	104	115	128	137	107	102
North Carolina	100	97	107	121	131	149	108
North Dakota	100	102	108	116	117	112	99
Ohio	100	98	104	106	118	140	103
Oklahoma	100	102	107	109	108	110	100
Oregon	100	104	113	123	135	137	108
Puerto Rico	100	107	138	140	148	148	
Rhode Island	100	113	103	101	158	159	104
South Dakota	100	118	122	126	125	130	104
Texas	100	108	128	137	141	160	107
Vermont	100	103	118	119	121	116	109
Virginia	100	101	107	116	125	148	110
Washington	100	116	128	137	165	182	111
West Virginia	100	104	96	104	91	84	98
Wisconsin	100	107	106	101	106	130	104
Wyoming	100	100	100	93	101	109	96

Source: Table 15, Part III
National Center for State Courts, 1991

one unchanged) show an even mix of increases and decreases. However, the 1989 changes brought 13 increases, four decreases, and three unchanged filing levels, perhaps a harbinger of future upward movement in the filing of torts.

The data for individual states and jurisdictions suggest three consistencies in tort filings. First, tort filing rates in most states fluctuate from year to year. Second, there are some common underlying patterns to these fluctuations, with the major increases tending to occur in the same years. Third, despite the fluctuations from year to year, there is evidence of an upward trend in several states and evidence of a downward trend in only one state.

These fluctuations in tort filings are also found when the aggregate number of tort filings for the 20 jurisdictions is examined, as shown in **Chart 2** (summing the data in Table 16, Part III (p. 163)). For those states, there was an overall increase in tort filings of 33.7 percent during the past six years. Most of this growth occurred between 1984 and 1986 (23.4 percent). There was little change between 1986 and 1988. Growth resumed, however, in 1989, with a 7.6 percent increase between 1988 and 1989.

After the basic consistency in felony trends, the recent career of tort case filings is somewhat disconcerting. Chart 2 suggests that the mid-1980s represented a curious interlude in the long-term trend of tort litigation, one that is difficult to interpret. The commentary in *State Court Caseload Statistics* suggested that the second major wave of tort reform legislation created incentives that led the pool of potential tort cases either to be precipitously emptied or allowed to accumulate in anticipation of how statutory changes would affect plaintiffs (an

TEXT TABLE 2: Trends in Tort Filings, 1984–1989

General Jurisdiction Courts

State	Tort Index 1984	Tort Index 1985	Tort Index 1986	Tort Index 1987	Tort Index 1988	Tort Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
Alaska	100	161	180	128	72	65	105
Arizona	100	117	130	134	223	137	117
California	100	115	134	142	136	136	113
Colorado	100	108	146	87	107	131	104
Florida	100	111	127	125	128	143	115
Hawaii	100	104	109	111	108	111	107
Idaho	100	116	122	102	84	85	101
Kansas	100	101	106	109	114	112	103
Maine	100	99	98	86	85	94	106
Maryland	100	93	114	120	131	132	108
Michigan	100	98	141	128	134	141	102
Montana	100	114	112	109	94	98	98
New Jersey	100	101	109	112	135	135	103
New York	100	94	85	90	81	164	101
North Dakota	100	93	102	100	100	109	96
Ohio	100	115	127	133	129	131	101
Puerto Rico	100	111	115	121	103	141	101
Texas	100	110	112	119	107	107	106
Utah	100	87	176	93	98	86	103
Washington	100	108	217	89	97	113	109

Limited Jurisdiction Courts

State	Tort Index 1984	Tort Index 1985	Tort Index 1986	Tort Index 1987	Tort Index 1988	Tort Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
Alaska	100	148	702	185	77	82	105
Hawaii	100	94	106	135	113	126	107
Ohio	100	96	103	113	113	111	101
Puerto Rico	100	102	115	112	120	130	101
Texas	100	115	138	158	171	160	106

Source: Table 16, Part III
National Center for State Courts, 1991

earlier wave of legislation in the late 1970s implemented significant reforms, notably to tort law governing malpractice).

Recent trends in tort filings are dominated by sharp increases in the mid-1980s that were subsequently reversed either immediately or through a series of decreases back to about the level in 1984 or 1985. Whatever factors drove the sharp increases appear to have dissipated by the end of the decade. The most plausible explanations for the trends in many states are specific tort reform initiatives that made it advantageous for litigants to file a lawsuit either before or after a particular date. It is possible to trace the legislative changes underlying the abrupt changes found in Alaska, Arizona, Michigan, New Jersey, Utah, and Washington.

Tort reform legislation during 1986 and 1987, and a ballot initiative in 1988 revised several aspects of Alaska's civil law. In 1986 a $500,000 ceiling on most noneconomic damages in most personal injury cases was established.[6] In addition, the Alaska legislature in 1987 abolished pure joint and several liability for joint tortfeasors (defendants).[7] A plaintiff could no longer recover all of the damages sought from one tortfeasor with damages assessed instead so that each is responsible for a share dependent upon their relative negligence. The substantial rise in tort filings during 1985 and 1986 stems from a rush by plaintiffs to file before the new legislation took effect, allowing their cases to be decided under the old law. The sharp declines recorded each year since 1986, and the parallel trend at the general and limited jurisdiction level, support this reasoning. That tort filings in 1989 stand at 65 percent of the 1984 level in the state's general jurisdiction court and at 82 percent in the state's limited jurisdiction court suggests, but does not establish, that the legislation may have achieved its purpose. The ballot initiative passed by the voters in November, 1988 abolished the doctrine of joint and several liability, effective March 5, 1989.

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[6] Section 09.17.101 of the Alaska Code of Civil Procedure.

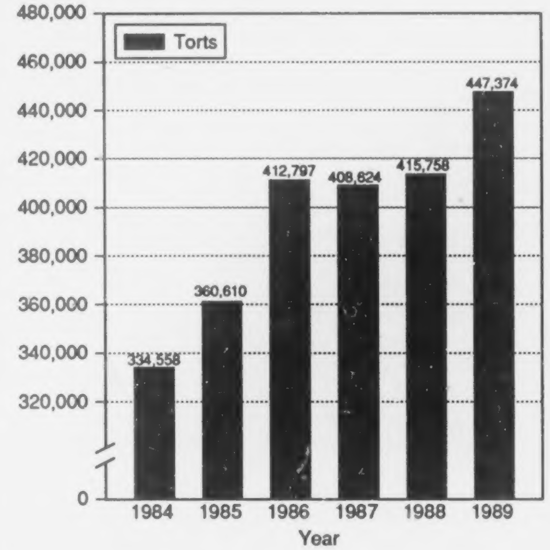
[7] Chapter 16 of the Alaska Code of Civil Procedure was repealed in 1987.

Arizona offers another clear example of the potential impact of change in filing incentives brought about by changes in the legal framework. In 1987, the Arizona legislature abolished joint and several liability for most torts with the statute taking effect on January 1, 1988.[8] The impact was dramatic. "Of the 17,128 tort cases pending in Maricopa County as of December 30, 1987, 8,223 were filed in that very month, precisely to take advantage of the old doctrine. The court administrator's office reports that the average number of new tort filings per month in Maricopa County is 615."[9] This change undoubtedly underlies the 66 percent increase in the tort filing rate per 100,000 population between 1987 and 1988.[10] The long-term impact is less certain, however, given the equally substantial decrease between 1988 and 1989 that brought filing levels back to where they were in 1987.

In 1986, the Michigan legislature established a case evaluation panel to screen most civil actions in order to identify and penalize frivolous law suits (especially tort actions).[11] The panel came into existence on October 1, 1986. When the panel determines that an action is frivolous, the plaintiff proceeds to trial at the risk of serious penalties should the judgment be against him or her. This might account for the large increase in the number of tort filings in 1986 (the last year before the evaluation panel came into effect) and the sharp decrease in 1987, but not the continued trend upward thereafter.

Colorado may offer another example of tort reform legislation prompting an unusually large number of tort filings in the year prior to the changes taking effect and a drop subsequently to lower than typical filing levels. "Massive tort reform legislation" was passed by the Colorado General Assembly in 1986.[12] Tort filings grew by 35 percent between 1985 and 1986 and then declined between 1986 and 1987 by 40 percent. Thereafter, the number of tort filings again began to climb, standing in 1989 at 131 percent of the 1984 level. The substantial increases in tort filings between 1987/88 and 1988/89 coincided with further extensive revision to the state's tort law, notably in the area of medical malpractice. It is not possible, however, to explain tort filing trends in the state over those years by reference to the impact of that tort reform legislation. The statutory changes were too complex and mixed in the incentives presented to plaintiffs to represent clear turning points. In particular, some of the legislation taking effect during the second half of 1989 may prompt plaintiffs to postpone tort filings until fiscal year 1989/90, which will be covered in the next *Report* in this series.[13]

CHART 2: Tort Filings, 1984–1989



Data included from the general jurisdiction courts in Text Table 2.

Tort reform legislation in Utah during 1986, taking effect on July 1, 1987, set a cap of $250,000 on the noneconomic damages that a plaintiff could recover from malpractice actions, modified the doctrine of joint and several liability, and required structured settlements for certain categories of awards. Tort filings in Utah doubled between 1985 and 1986, decreased by half the next year and remained at a lower level than in 1984.

The state of Washington offers an example of how legislation altering incentives facing litigants can compress several years of filings into a single year and then create an interlude during which new tort cases slowly accumulate until the pre-existing trend resumes. The Tort Reform Act of 1986 introduced various provisions "to create a more equitable distribution of the cost and risk of injury and increase the availability and affordability of insurance." A ceiling on the noneconomic damages plaintiffs can recover and other provisions of the law led plaintiffs to file the equivalent of an entire year's tort filings in August 1986, the month preceding the act's implementation. Viewed with the hindsight afforded by 1986-89 tort filing statistics, it was concluded that "tort filings were not reduced; rather there was a redistribution of when those cases were filed. The lower filing rate during 1987 through 1989 appears to be the result of the depletion of the inventory of tort cases that was cleared prior to reform enactment."[14]

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[8] Section 12-2506 of the Arizona Revised Statutes. This change became effective January 1, 1988.

[9] Elliot Talenfeld, "Instructing the Jury as to the Effect of Joint and Several Liability: Time for the Court to Address the Issue on the Merits," *Arizona State Law Journal,* 20:925.

[10] Although the new statute took effect on January 1, 1988, its impact was felt in the 1988 filing rates because Arizona compiles caseload statistics on the basis of a July-June 30 reporting period.

[11] Section 600.4953 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

[12] Salmon, John G., "1988 Update on Colorado Tort Reform Legislation—Part I". *Colorado Lawyer* September, 1988, p. 1719.

[13] Salmon, John G, "1990 Update on Colorado Tort Reform Legislation". *Colorado Lawyer* August, 1990, pp. 1529-1544.

Other fluctuations may reflect changes to the maximum dollar amount jurisdiction for cases filed in courts of limited jurisdiction or for small claims procedures. As states raise the maximum dollar amounts that can be contested in those forums, alternatives emerge to filing tort cases in general jurisdiction courts. This adds weight to the significance of the increases observed in tort filings, since case filings in general jurisdiction courts perhaps represent a declining share of total claims for tort damages. For example, on July 1, 1986 (the start of the court reporting year), the maximum dollar amount of a small claims filing in the Alaska District Court rose from $1,000 to $5,000. This change, in combination with the change in tort law discussed earlier, helps explain why tort filings have decreased in both the Alaska Superior and Alaska District Courts during the 1986 to 1988 period.

To summarize, overall tort filings are currently increasing at more modest rates than earlier in the decade. This trend is less apparent at the individual state level, where a great deal of variability exists. Over the last six years, the courts examined include two states with a consistent upward trend and ten additional states with a predominant upward trend despite some yearly fluctuation. Only Maine shows a fairly consistent downward trend. There is no satisfactory basis for attributing a direction to the filing data for the seven remaining states. On balance, there is sufficient consistency to suggest that factors operating at a national or perhaps regional level affect the extent and direction of change to tort filing rates. Thus, despite the link between extreme fluctuations in some states and specific legislative initiatives, there is nevertheless some evidence of a tendency toward modest increases in tort filings.

Torts have become the main arena for the debate on whether the level of litigation in this country is rising to a degree that is detrimental to businesses and a challenge to judges and court managers. Extending consideration to contract and real property rights cases permits comment both on how representative tort cases are of civil caseload trends and helps interpret what is occurring in tort litigation itself.

TORTS AND OTHER CIVIL CASES, 1984-89. Six years is a brief period within which to identify trends. Still, it would buttress the tentative conclusions considerably if, even in the short-term, tort filings manifest year-to-year changes that coincide with or differ from other types of civil cases.

TEXT TABLE 3: Tort Filings as a Percentage of Civil Filings, 1984–1989

General Jurisdiction Courts

State	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Alaska	7.8	11.4	14.2	11.0	6.4	6.0
Arizona	10.7	11.1	11.6	12.1	19.1	12.5
California	16.2	17.9	19.9	20.4	19.6	19.6
Colorado	4.7	4.9	5.7	3.5	4.1	5.1
Florida	7.0	7.1	7.7	7.6	7.3	7.4
Hawaii	6.2	6.4	6.7	6.9	6.4	6.5
Idaho	2.9	3.3	3.5	3.1	2.5	2.4
Kansas	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.0
Maine	30.7	28.8	30.9	29.9	26.0	28.4
Maryland	11.1	10.1	11.6	12.2	12.6	12.3
Michigan	15.5	15.3	18.9	17.4	17.2	17.8
Montana	6.2	6.8	6.5	6.7	6.3	7.3
New Jersey	7.4	7.1	7.3	7.3	8.2	7.2
New York	29.9	28.0	26.7	28.2	26.7	29.9
North Dakota	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.2	3.5
Ohio	7.6	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.3	8.0
Puerto Rico	6.3	7.0	6.7	7.4	6.7	8.2
Texas	7.7	8.3	9.1	9.2	8.0	8.2
Utah	4.8	4.1	7.6	4.5	4.7	4.4
Washington	8.0	8.0	14.4	6.2	6.5	7.2

Source: Trial Court Statistical Profiles, Court Statistics Project, 1984-1989

National Center for State Courts, 1991

The broadest context is the total civil caseload. The first method considers torts as a percentage of total civil filings between 1984 and 1989. Since torts are a component of total civil filings, a change in this percentage indicates whether torts are becoming a larger component of state court caseloads. This index provides another way to measure the extent of recent change in tort litigation.

The second method offers a more specific standard by which to judge the degree of change in tort litigation. Six-year trends in tort, contract, and real property rights cases are examined and contrasted to determine if tort filings are increasing more sharply and more consistently than other major forms of civil cases.

TORTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL CIVIL FILINGS. It is possible to calculate the percentage tort cases represent of total civil filings in 20 general jurisdiction state court systems. The resulting percentages can be found in **Text Table 3**. Percentages are based on the number of tort cases filed annually in each court system as shown in Table 16, Part III; total civil filings are taken from Table 9 in the various annual caseload reports for the years under consideration.

In 14 states the percentage was essentially unchanged over the six-year period; in five jurisdictions the percentage rose (Arizona, California, Michigan, Montana, and Puerto Rico); in Alaska the overall change was a decrease.[15]

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[14] *The 1989 Report of the Courts of Washington*. Olympia, WA: Office of the Administrator for the Courts, 1990, p. 5-11.

[15] A more formal analysis would take into consideration that a change from 21 percent to 22 percent is not proportional to a change from, say 3 percent to 4 percent. The standard procedure is a logarithmic transformation of the data.

Arizona provides the strongest example of a steadily rising percentage of tort cases. Torts represented 10.7 percent of Arizona's 1984 civil filings and 19.1 percent of 1988 filings, but declined in the next year to 12.5 percent. This reflects the impact of tort reform discussed earlier. There were several states that showed pronounced increases in specific years or for certain periods in the six-year span. California, Hawaii, and Texas all showed an increasing percentage of tort filings from 1984 to 1987. This was not continued in 1988 or 1989. Alaska is the only state to record an apparent downward trend, but that, too, is ambiguous because of the large rises recorded initially.

In general, the use of percentages in this section tends to support the conclusions drawn using tort filings in this report and rates per 100,000 population in earlier caseload reports. Overall, in 11 of the 20 states torts were increasing more rapidly than other civil filings between 1984-89. Much of the increase was accomplished, however, through a sharp upward swing in tort filings between 1985 and 1986: torts increased as a percent of total civil filings in 15 of 20 courts reporting comparable data. Although that degree of increase did not recur for most states subsequently, there is more evidence to support rising tort filings than to support a decline.

Torts as a percentage of total civil filings offers an indicator of change that is not linked to state population. The size of the population is growing in most states, and if the absolute number of filings remains constant from one year to the next the result is a decreased filing rate. The use of population adjusted filing data therefore imposes a more difficult standard for upward trends than for downward trends. Also, population change for individual states is often influenced by net migration, which can cause rapid change to the population size of states in some regions.[16]

TRENDS IN CONTRACT AND REAL PROPERTY RIGHTS FILINGS, 1984-89. Torts are a small component of civil filings in most general jurisdiction trial courts. The range in 1989 was from 2.4 percent (in Idaho) to 29.9 percent (in New York); with the torts forming less than 10 percent of most states' civil caseloads. Therefore, when comparing torts as a percentage of total civil filings, large increases in tort filings may be partially concealed because torts are so small a percentage of all civil cases. This section attempts to alleviate this concern by narrowing the field of inquiry to an examination of the relationship between tort, contract, and real property rights cases.

Contracts form a major category for classifying civil cases that includes disputes over a promissory agreement between two or more parties (see the entry in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary: 1989 Edition*).

Complete and comparable data on contract cases are available between 1984 and 1989 for the general jurisdiction courts of 13 states and Puerto Rico and five limited jurisdiction courts. The index numbers tracing the trends for those courts can be found in **Text Table 4**. Statistics for the courts are aggregated in **Chart 3**.

Real property rights cases arise out of contention over the ownership, use, or disposition of land or real estate (see the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary: 1989 Edition*). Real property rights filings are available for a larger number of statewide court systems: 19 general jurisdiction and 11 limited jurisdiction. The index numbers for individual courts can be found in **Text Table 5** (p. 48)and the aggregate trend examined in **Chart 4** (p. 49).

The tables and graphs suggest that the main consistencies identified for tort filing rates also apply to contract and real property rights cases over the 1984-89 period. During those six years, the change in all three case types was upward in most states. Aggregating the data from 13 courts with data on all three case types reveals that between 1984 and 1989 tort filings increased by 26.7 percent, compared to an increase for contract filings of 21.6 percent and for real property rights filings of 44.2 percent.

This overall upward trend characterizes the experience of the individual states. At the general jurisdiction court level, between 1984 and 1989 eight of 14 states (actually 13 states and Puerto Rico) reported increases in contract filings and 15 of 19 states reported increases in real property rights filings. This compares to increased tort filings found in 15 of 20 states. The trends for contract and real property rights cases, however, tend to be smoother than those for tort cases and clearer in direction. Moreover, the spectacular increases in civil case filings, comparable to the experience courts had with felony cases over the same period, are found in contract and real property rights cases. Contract cases in Florida grew by 83 percent between 1984 and 1989 and by 88 percent in Maryland. Real property rights filings doubled in Colorado and Florida over the six years and grew by 54 percent in Washington.

Consideration of trends in courts of limited jurisdiction tends to reinforce these conclusions. First, the most consistent growth is found in real property rights cases. Second, tort cases fluctuate more than the other two civil case types.

There is not, however, a close connection between trends at the two trial court levels. There are some notable exceptions. Filing rates in Alaska tend to coincide, even for extreme fluctuations. In Hawaii, declining or modestly increasing civil caseloads at the general jurisdiction level coincided with upward trends at the limited jurisdiction level for tort, contract, and real property rights cases. Similarly, in Texas, substantial increases in the number of tort and contract cases occurred at the limited jurisdiction level. For tort cases, a 7 percent increase at the general jurisdiction level was matched by a 60 percent increase over 1984-89 at the

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[16] Tort filings can be standardized using a variety of rates, including rates per 100,000 households, rates per 100,000 firms, or rates per 100,000 economic transactions in a state. The rate selected should reflect the purpose of the analysis. In this report, the issue is simply whether filings are increasing more or less rapidly than the population. Therefore, the actual numbers of case filings are used and the overall 1984-89 population change included in the tables for use by readers interested in whether caseload growth is outstripping population growth.

TEXT TABLE 4: Trends in Contract Filings, 1984–1989

General Jurisdiction Courts

State	Contract Index 1984	Contract Index 1985	Contract Index 1986	Contract Index 1987	Contract Index 1988	Contract Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
Arizona	100	109	128	127	128	128	117
Colorado	100	99	120	124	113	109	104
Florida	100	122	144	148	155	183	115
Hawaii	100	86	35	79	84	80	107
Kansas	100	110	123	125	127	137	103
Maine	100	105	87	98	127	136	106
Maryland	100	95	115	133	143	188	108
Montana	100	108	114	95	71	62	98
New Jersey	100	110	113	113	117	121	103
North Dakota	100	96	97	88	90	71	96
Puerto Rico	100	102	114	114	121	154	101
Texas	100	113	109	111	92	74	106
Utah	100	85	15	4	7	74	103
Washington	100	108	112	103	101	98	109

Limited Jurisdiction Courts

State	Contract Index 1984	Contract Index 1985	Contract Index 1986	Contract Index 1987	Contract Index 1988	Contract Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
Hawaii	100	107	110	121	122	149	107
New York	100	85	77	78	78	76	101
Ohio	100	101	106	113	116	110	101
Puerto Rico	100	85	85	85	101	105	101
Texas	100	169	226	246	211	173	106

Source: Trial Court Statistical Profiles, Court Statistics Project, 1984-1989
National Center for State Courts, 1991

limited jurisdiction level. Contract cases in Texas declined by 26 percent at the general jurisdiction level and increased by 73 percent at the limited jurisdiction level.

Overall, the evidence presented here indicates that tort filings are not increasing at a faster rate than other major categories of civil filings. In fact, only in the 1985-86 period did the aggregate growth in torts exceed both contract and real property rights filings. Within the states, the results show more variation, but no state recorded a continual, yearly relative rise in tort filings during the 1984-89 period. There are sufficient differences between tort, contract, and real property rights case filing patterns to suggest that the factors promoting increased or decreased levels of tort litigation in states are not having a similar effect on contract and real property rights litigation. Moreover, the most dramatic increases in the civil caseload tended to be for real property rights cases or contract cases, not torts.

Trial Court Filing Trends, 1984-89: A Summary

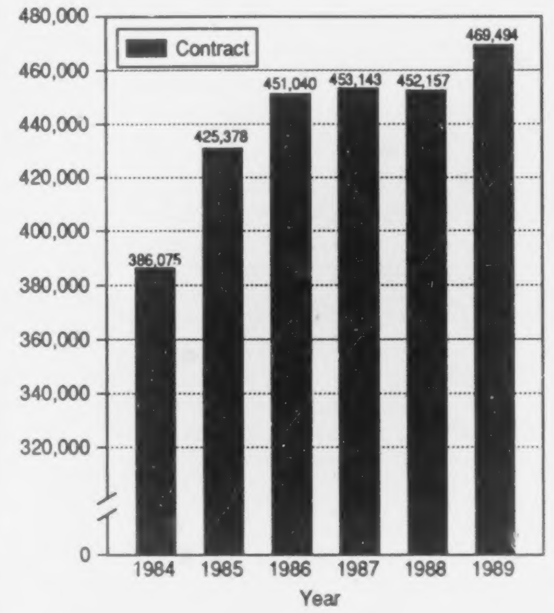
Change rather than continuity characterizes the filings of felony and civil case filings. Specifically, civil filing rates in general jurisdiction courts tend to fluctuate from year to year. The direction is toward higher rather than lower case filings, but few courts consistently demonstrate annual increases even over the limited time period considered here.

The trend in felony case filings is upward. With increases over a six-year period that nearly doubled the number of cases being filed in some states, the pressures on the courts are substantial indeed. Moreover, felony cases are usually heard at the general jurisdiction court level and are the type of criminal case with the most substantial implications for court staffing and resources.

The addition of 1989 data to the tort filing time series is far from conclusive in establishing clear trends. Between 1985 and 1986 tort filing rates increased in most states reporting data, often substantially. This was largely reversed between 1986 and 1987 with tort filings leveling off, often near pre-1986 levels in 1988, and a slight increase in 1989. An underlying tendency toward higher filing rates is faintly evident, but that assessment takes on confidence depending on the importance given to different states and to different ways of presenting the trends and to the assumptions made about the long-term impact of tort reform.

The trend analysis also suggests that tort filings are changing over time in a manner that differs from other civil case categories. Again, much of the variation in tort

CHART 3: Contract Filings, 1984–1989



Data included from the general jurisdiction courts in AZ, CO, FL, HI, KS, ME, MD, MT, NJ, ND, PR, TX, UT, WA.

filing rates is attributable to specific legislative changes enacted by states during the second wave of major tort reform. Recent trends for contract and real property rights cases offer more consistency. Contract cases are experiencing moderate annual growth and real property rights cases substantial growth. Given the prevailing economic climate, it is possible that those types of cases will replace torts as the significant indicators of the volume of litigation.

Appellate Court Caseload Trends, 1984–89

A trend analysis offers perspective on where state appellate courts stand at a time when there is ample cause for concern about their well-being. At the federal level, it has been influentially asserted that "a crisis of volume" afflicts the U.S. circuit courts of appeals.[17] The main cause is clear: in the 1940s one trial court termination in 40 was the subject of an appeal; by the mid-1980s, one termination in eight was contested through an appeal.[18] The result is an avalanche of cases in such numbers that it is asserted that only urgent structural reform will allow the federal appellate system to survive into the next century.

At the state level, observers note a similar crisis, since "state appellate court caseloads have, on average, doubled every ten years since the Second World War," implying an average annual increase of 8 percent in caseload volume.[19] Moreover, appellate courts are not merely confronting more of the same but "as the number of cases has grown, so has the range of complexity. Increasing numbers of complex cases, especially death penalty litigation, require substantial expenditure of judicial time." [20] Volume and complexity combined to bring into being an IAC in many states during the 1970s and to make the 1980s a period of significant institutional innovation, notably through streamlined appellate procedures, settlement conferences, and alternatives to full appellate review.

Perhaps the most fundamental question that a trend analysis can address is whether state COLRs and IACs are currently experiencing common patterns of caseload growth. Did the rapid caseload growth of the 1960s and 1970s extend into the late 1980s in most courts or in some courts? Alternatively, has a new era of moderate caseload growth emerged? Further, if levels of growth are much the same, then similar factors may underlie the problems facing appellate courts. Earlier in Part II a consistency among states was found for felony trial court filings, suggesting that one important source of appeals is rapidly expanding in virtually every state. Convictions are rising. Prison population grew by more than half—54 percent—between 1984 and 1989.[21] This should translate into more appellate cases. Civil caseloads are less obvious sources of appellate overloads. Filings are not increasing in the trial courts of many states, and growth, where present, is less than for criminal cases. However, the apparent responsiveness of case filings to tort reform legislation might be expected to have generated significant new appellate activity. On balance, trial court activity since 1984 had the potential to fuel appellate caseload growth.[22] To what degree and where it did so is the subject of this section of the report.

In the context of this past experience and current concerns, it is sensible to examine recent trends in state appellate courts. Part I of this report already provided reasons for thinking that appellate caseload growth in the late 1980s has substantially declined from that experienced over the previous three decades. COLR caseloads did not increase between 1988 and 1989, while IACs

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17. *Report of the Federal Courts Study Committee.* Washington D.C.: Judicial Conference of the United States, Federal Court Study Committee, 1990, Chapter 6.

18. *Report of the Federal Court Study Committee,* p. 110.

19. American Bar Association, Judicial Administration Division, *Standards Relating to Appellate Delay Reduction.* Chicago: ABA, p. 11.

20. Rita M. Novak and Douglas K. Somerlot, *Delay on Appeal.* Chicago: ABA, 1990, p. 2.

21. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, *Prisoners in 1989.* Washington D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics *Bulletin,* 1990, p 1.

22. It might be more appropriate here to discuss trial court disposition trends, but these closely parallel filing trends. Whether trial dispositions are more pertinent when discussing the potential pool for appellate cases is questionable. In four IACs, a minority of civil appeals arose from trial settings and the percentage of criminal appeals from trial settings varied from 21 to 85 percent (see Chapper and Hanson, *Intermediate Appellate Courts: Improving Case Processing,* National Center for State Courts, 1990, p. 6-7.

TEXT TABLE 5: Trends in Real Property Rights Filings, 1984–1989

General Jurisdiction Courts

State	Real Property Index 1984	Real Property Index 1985	Real Property Index 1986	Real Property Index 1987	Real Property Index 1988	Real Property Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
Arizona	100	171	224	250	236	273	117
California	100	116	183	133	179	190	113
Colorado	100	133	177	205	238	211	104
Connecticut	100	107	112	155	172	130	103
Delaware	100	102	100	116	126	119	110
District of Columbia	100	98	95	90	86	78	97
Florida	100	126	156	161	177	200	115
Hawaii	100	103	90	79	87	109	107
Illinois	100	130	126	119	141	112	101
Kansas	100	110	130	139	138	140	103
Maryland	100	87	89	72	63	104	108
Massachusetts	100	104	113	118	139	143	102
Montana	100	123	129	143	115	119	98
New Jersey	100	105	107	109	118	128	103
North Dakota	100	122	140	155	132	116	96
Puerto Rico	100	97	107	91	81	81	101
Texas	100	92	91	88	88	89	106
Utah	100	82	93	90	92	85	103
Washington	100	119	119	134	147	154	109

Limited Jurisdiction Courts

State	Real Property Index 1984	Real Property Index 1985	Real Property Index 1986	Real Property Index 1987	Real Property Index 1988	Real Property Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
Arizona	100	149	184	195	224	244	117
Delaware	100	118	125	125	130	149	110
Florida	100	123	144	154	163	178	115
Hawaii	100	114	121	115	138	150	107
Maryland	100	105	107	112	124	126	108
Michigan	100	109	120	128	136	142	102
Nebraska	100	95	74	106	87	76	100
New Hampshire	100	116	126	147	164	160	113
New York	100	101	108	108	100	100	101
Ohio	100	105	110	116	130	137	101
Texas	100	109	111	122	108	108	106

Source: Trial Court Statistical Profiles,-Court Statistics Project, 1984-1989
National Center for State Courts, 1991

recorded a historically modest growth of 2.6 percent in mandatory appeals and 1 percent in discretionary petitions. Consequently, the rise in case volume in the state courts may have slowed, offering courts a respite in which to respond to the accumulated caseload growth of recent decades, adapt to the changing composition of appellate caseloads, and prepare for a possible resurgence of rapid caseload growth in the 1990s.

The available evidence suggests that the national, average annual increase in appellate caseloads has indeed slowed substantially in the second half of the 1980s. Between 1984 and 1989, the number of mandatory appeals filed in all COLRs increased by 14.2 percent and the number of discretionary petitions that were filed by 5 percent. Mandatory appeals filed in all IACs grew by 12 percent and discretionary petitions by 32.1 percent over those six-years.[23] **Chart 5** (p. 50) displays the changing volume of the actual number of cases filed, based on those courts with comparable data for all six years.[24]

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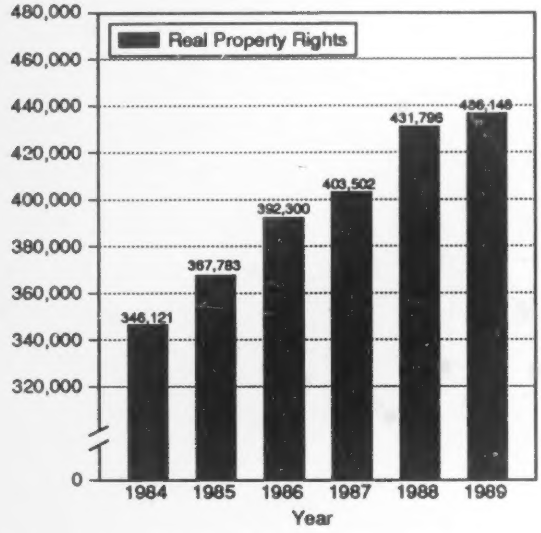
[23] Two permanent IACs were created between 1984 and 1989: the Utah Court of Appeals on February 1, 1987 (seven justices), and the Virginia Court of Appeals (10 judges) on January 1, 1985. Creation of these new IACs and the cases that they absorbed from the COLR dockets is one factor in the more substantial caseload growth at that level compared to COLRs.

[24] The percentage growth figures for all appellate courts are estimated from 38 COLRs represented in the aggregate of 33 COLRs for mandatory appeals, 35 COLRs for discretionary petitions, 33 IACs for mandatory appeals, and 12 IACs for discretionary petitions. Those same courts provided the information displayed in Chart 6. Caseload numbers for the Illinois Supreme Court and the New Mexico Supreme Court were adjusted to match the count taken for 1989 (see Appendix A for details).

CHART 4: Real Property Rights Filings, 1984–1989



Data included from the general jurisdiction courts in AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, HI, IL, KS, MD, MA, MT, NJ, ND, PR, TX, UT, WA.

Caseload growth continues to outstrip judicial resources, even in terms of the sheer number of petitions to be considered and appeals to be heard. The number of COLR justices has remained constant since 1984 and, although the number of IAC judges grew by 9.5 percent, the increase in IAC judgeships still falls short of the rise in case filings. Thus, caseloads per judge continue to rise at both appellate levels. It is not known whether these cases tend to be more difficult and more demanding on judge time than appeals and petitions filed in previous decades.

The remainder of Part II describes trends in mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions. COLR and IAC filings are treated separately because of the different functions those courts serve and the differences noted above for their aggregate 1984-89 caseload growths. Where possible, factors underlying observed trends are highlighted.

Mandatory Filings in State Appellate Courts, 1984-89

The trend analysis draws upon caseload information from 38 COLRs and 33 IACs. That information is summarized in **Text Table 6** (COLR filings) (p. 51) and **Text Table 7** (p. 52) (IAC filings), with changes measured through index numbers created by setting the 1984 caseload at 100. The actual number of case filings annually in each court can be found in Table 13, Part III.

Case filings in 23 of the 38 COLRs were higher in 1989 than in 1984, while decreases occurred in 15 COLRs. Most increases represent a 10 percent or greater increase in the number of cases filed per year, with the average increase for a COLR being 27 percent. Decreases in 15 COLRs (including the 1 percent decline in Vermont) were, on average, 23 percent.

IAC caseloads changed in a rather consistent manner among the states between 1984 and 1989. Twenty-seven of 33 IACs included in Text Table 7 recorded an increase, all but seven in excess of 10 percent. Four IACs experienced decreases and there was essentially no change in two IACs. The average increase was 21 percent and the average decrease 14 percent. It appears, therefore, that caseload trends for IACs are more similar than those for COLRs.

When the year to year changes are traced for individual courts it is indeed the case that appellate filings changed since 1984 in ways that rarely form an unambiguous trend either upward or downward. The largest number of filings is found in 1989 for only 13 out of the 23 COLRs that recorded an increase over the six-year period—just over one half. Ten recorded their largest caseload in 1988, three in 1987, and two in 1985. In the 15 COLRs where the overall change was a decrease, eight had the highest number of filings in 1984.

Among IACs, the peak caseload occurred in 1989 for only 14 of the 27 IACs in which an overall increase took place. Those 14 include courts that experienced caseload growth equivalent to that found in previous decades. COLRs in Arizona, California, Delaware, Ohio, and Texas (the Court of Criminal Appeals) registered total increases sufficient to average an 8 percent growth rate, although no COLR offers an example of continuously rising case filings. Massachusetts, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Utah (which established an IAC in 1987) offer instances of significant downward trends that accompanied a redrawing of the jurisdictional boundaries between COLRs and IACs.

Although IACs are more likely to record increases than COLRs, IAC caseload growth stays within a narrower range. Moreover, the increases that occurred were rarely the product of consistent growth over the six years. Only Alabama, Colorado, and Ohio conform to a clear upward trend for case filings.) Other courts were nearly as likely to move downward as they are upward from one year to the next. The year to year fluctuations are particularly evident for states in which all cases reach the IAC on assignment by the COLR: Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, and South Carolina.

Consequently, COLRs and IACs face caseloads that vary significantly from year to year in ways that it would be difficult for the court to anticipate and make provisions for (e.g. increasing the number of judges or support staff). That phenomenon is somewhat more prevalent among COLRs, but it applies to many IACs as well. For many courts, therefore, in the 1984-89 period fluctuating caseloads may represent a greater challenge than rising case volume. It should be noted, however, that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals, the Idaho Court of Appeals, and the Oklahoma Court of Appeals did experience increases of over 50 percent.

Several reasons underlie the difference between COLRs and IACs. First, COLR mandatory jurisdiction is typically quite restricted in states with an IAC, leading to a small number of appeals in some states. Small caseloads are more sensitive to changes that appear large when expressed as a percentage. For example, the 1989 index number of 53 for the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court represents 141 case filings in 1984 and 75 filings in 1989. Six of the 38 COLRs had less than 200 case filings in 1984, the base year. Second, COLRs have coped with rising dockets by transferring jurisdiction over some types of appeals to IACs. COLRs in some states assign cases to the IAC, and COLRs in other states can transfer cases to the IAC. Third, COLRs can control their caseload by issuing court rules or promoting legislation that shift cases, especially appeals of right, to IACs.

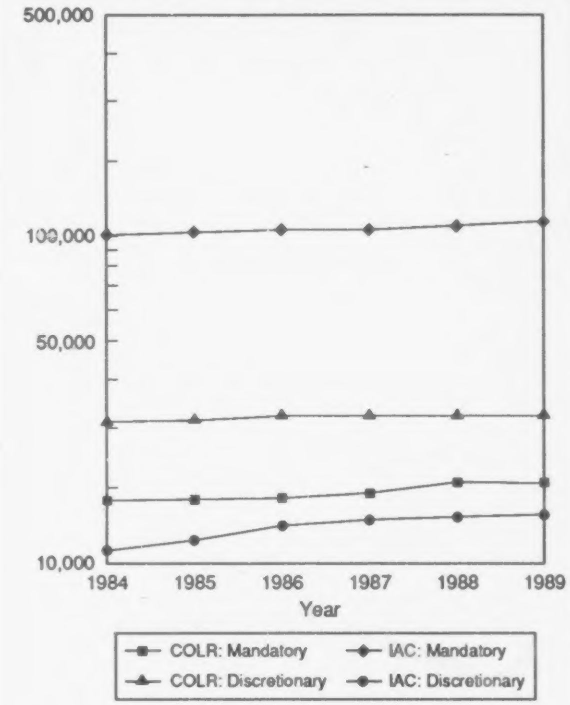
Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1984-89

Discretionary petitions account for two out of every three cases filed in COLRs between 1984-89 but form a relatively insignificant share of the IAC's caseload in most states. Changes in discretionary case filings of COLRs can be traced in **Text Table 8** (p. 53), while IAC trends are shown in **Text Table 9** (p. 54). Both text tables are based on the detailed case filing information provided in Table 14, Part III, which is also the authoritative source on the status of each court's caseload numbers relative to the model reporting categories recommended by COSCA.

There is greater diversity among courts at both levels when trends in discretionary petitions are examined than was found for mandatory appeals. Thirty-four COLRs are considered in Text Table 8. Of these, 19 report increases (all but two of more than 10 percent), 12 report decreases (nine greater than 10 percent), and three are unchanged. The largest increase was in the New Mexico Supreme Court, where the number of case filings more than doubled over the six years. Some courts reporting large increases in mandatory appeals—the Idaho Supreme Court and the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals—also registered substantial growth in the number of petitions being filed. The average increase was 27 percent and the average decrease 19 percent. The Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts and Utah Supreme Court experienced drops in discretionary filings roughly equivalent to that found for those courts' mandatory appeals.

A similar pattern is found among IACs. Courts split between those with increases and those with decreases over the six-year period and the overall change is often substantial. Trend data could be obtained for 12 IACs and are displayed in Text Table 9. Seven courts show an overall increase and five show a decrease. The number of petitions filed in the Louisiana Court of Appeals more than doubled over the six years being examined. Expressed in terms of the number of petitions, that increase is daunting: 1,842 petitions were filed with the court in 1984 and 4,189 in 1989. The number of petitions is so great as to overwhelm the trends in other states. If Louisiana is excluded from the calculation of the growth in IAC discretionary petitions, the increase drops from 32.1 percent to 14.4 percent.

CHART 5: Mandatory and Discretionary Appellate Court Filings, 1984–89



Mandatory and Discretionary totals refer only to courts listed in Tables 13 and 14, respectively.

The trends therefore suggest that discretionary cases are becoming a more important component of the caseloads of some IACs. Discretionary cases increased more substantially than mandatory appeals in the IACs of California, Georgia, Louisiana, and Washington. In other states, however, the dominant pattern was the inconsistency from one year to the next. As with discretionary and mandatory COLR filings, it would be difficult to use the previous year's change in an IAC's discretionary caseload as a reliable guide to what will occur in the next year.

Appellate caseload trends, such as those just examined, are often shaped by changes to jurisdiction. An abrupt rise or decline in the filings of a court in a two-tier appellate system may reflect the transfer of jurisdiction between the COLR and IAC. A common transfer in recent years shifts appeals involving a sentence of life imprisonment from the COLR to the IAC. In other states, however, the shift has been in the reverse direction, with all mandatory appeals of convictions for offenses such as first degree homicide now falling within the jurisdiction of the COLR. More generally, sentencing reform can ex-

TEXT TABLE 6: Trends in Total Mandatory Cases Filed, 1984–1989

	Courts of Last Resort						
State	Mandatory Filings Index 1984	Mandatory Filings Index 1985	Mandatory Filings Index 1986	Mandatory Filings Index 1987	Mandatory Filings Index 1988	Mandatory Filings Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
			States with one COLR and one IAC				
Alaska	100	104	99	115	113	107	105
Arizona	100	77	112	110	107	151	117
Arkansas	100	92	86	96	84	92	102
California	100	128	106	142	144	171	113
Colorado	100	78	80	84	77	80	104
Florida	100	102	107	99	87	109	115
Georgia	100	104	93	97	96	102	110
Hawaii	100	105	128	131	152	138	107
Idaho	100	100	83	83	109	105	101
Illinois	100	142	185	149	747	130	101
Kansas	100	105	112	127	205	106	103
Kentucky	100	128	114	118	117	138	100
Louisiana	100	54	76	92	84	73	98
Maryland	100	99	108	106	110	93	108
Massachusetts	100	91	61	51	68	53	102
Michigan	100	60	80	100	80	80	102
New Jersey	100	62	64	95	97	112	103
New Mexico	100	94	101	99	92	114	107
North Carolina	100	97	108	79	64	47	107
North Dakota	100	91	102	103	99	107	96
Ohio	100	131	145	125	148	158	101
Oregon	100	88	71	86	94	106	105
South Carolina	100	94	108	107	130	97	106
Utah	100	98	97	74	69	78	103
Washington	100	85	71	59	51	44	109
			States with no intermediate appellate court				
Delaware	100	123	126	120	143	156	110
District of Columbia	100	98	86	83	90	84	97
Mississippi	100	97	121	106	110	92	101
Nebraska	100	100	101	119	110	149	100
Nevada	100	97	107	107	124	125	122
Rhode Island	100	99	95	79	100	111	104
South Dakota	100	104	106	123	124	113	101
Vermont	100	92	88	86	100	99	107
Wyoming	100	92	103	97	108	97	93
			States with multiple appellate courts at any level				
Alabama Supreme Court	100	107	111	134	111	122	103
Oklahoma Supreme Court	100	143	100	140	103	109	98
Pennsylvania Supreme Court	100	53	34	30	45	35	101
Texas Supreme Court	100	102	113	125	183	179	106

Source: Table 13, Part III
National Center for State Courts, 1991

pand the role of a state's appellate courts, especially IACs, in the review of sentences.

Changes to state constitutions and statutes governing civil law can also have an impact. For example, in Pennsylvania mandatory jurisdiction over appeals of decisions by certain administrative agencies shifted in 1983 from the COLR to the commonwealth court, one of the state's two IACs. The COLR's review became discretionary. Court rules or policies can also change in ways that redistribute appellate jurisdiction, particularly in those states in which the COLR assigns cases to the IAC or has significant authority to transfer cases.

New legislation can also generate a sudden influx of appeals in that subsequent year. Tort reform or sentencing reform legislation, for example, can initially lead to a large number of appeals. As the COLR develops the law,

TEXT TABLE 7: Trends in Total Mandatory Cases Filed, 1984--1989

	Intermediate Appellate Courts						
State	Mandatory Filings Index 1984	Mandatory Filings Index 1985	Mandatory Filings Index 1986	Mandatory Filings Index 1987	Mandatory Filings Index 1988	Mandatory Filings Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
			States with one COLR and one IAC				
Alaska	100	96	108	100	93	87	105
Arizona	100	103	122	125	142	140	117
Arkansas	100	99	111	111	105	126	102
California	100	101	99	99	108	114	113
Colorado	100	103	118	122	123	127	104
Connecticut	100	69	70	69	73	72	103
Florida	100	104	115	118	121	118	115
Georgia	100	94	129	100	111	114	110
Hawaii	100	131	131	133	119	139	107
Idaho	100	102	119	124	155	151	101
Illinois	100	107	106	111	114	114	101
Indiana	100	90	93	100	106	132	102
Iowa	100	128	97	109	128	119	98
Kansas	100	104	109	108	113	111	103
Kentucky	100	116	102	99	98	100	100
Louisiana	100	92	95	99	103	92	98
Maryland	100	92	93	96	99	104	108
Massachusetts	100	95	98	104	101	106	102
Missouri	100	111	110	107	116	128	103
New Jersey	100	97	98	101	104	104	103
New Mexico	100	116	117	106	113	136	107
North Carolina	100	105	105	96	103	105	107
Ohio	100	101	103	106	107	115	101
Oregon	100	104	108	112	93	99	105
South Carolina	100	97	87	109	76	111	106
Washington	100	114	123	113	110	112	109
Wisconsin	100	105	92	98	96	105	102
			States with multiple appellate courts at any level				
Alabama Court of Civil Appeals	100	103	100	110	99	105	103
Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals	100	109	110	121	127	152	103
Oklahoma Court of Appeals	100	81	123	118	173	174	98
Pennsylvania Superior Court	100	101	103	106	111	104	101
Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court	100	89	93	76	79	78	101
Texas Court of Appeals	100	108	106	106	112	119	106

Source: Table 13, Part III

National Center for State Courts, 1991

the number of resulting appeals will dwindle. For example, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals during 1988 experienced a substantial increase in the number of writs filed. Much of the increase can be traced to the Texas Prison Management Act, which deals with the accumulation of "good time" credits in the state prison system. Cases raising issues relating to that Act were consolidated and the issue decided during the year.

Discretionary Petitions Granted, 1984-89

COLRs were evenly divided as to whether their discretionary dockets were rising or falling. It is possible that trends in the filing of petitions have an impact on the percentage of petitions granted by the court. **Text Table 10** (p. 54) provides the available information relevant to that possibility. Eighteen COLRs from 17 states (both of Texas's COLRs are included) are considered. Information on the percentage of petitions granted is supplemented by the number of petitions filed in 1984 and in 1989.

The Supreme Court of West Virginia has full discretion over the cases it hears on the merits. Filings of petitions with the court grew by 28 percent between 1984 and 1989. The court granted between 35 and 49 percent of the petitions it received, but the percentage granted is not clearly related to the change in the volume of petitions. The other COLRs have both mandatory and

TEXT TABLE 8: Trends in Total Discretionary Cases Filed, 1984–1989

	Courts of Last Resort						
State	Discretionary Filings Index 1984	Discretionary Filings Index 1985	Discretionary Filings Index 1986	Discretionary Filings Index 1987	Discretionary Filings Index 1988	Discretionary Filings Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
			States with one COLR and one IAC				
Alaska	100	88	142	99	110	114	105
Arizona	100	114	114	98	100	99	117
California	100	109	120	114	109	106	113
Colorado	100	94	96	93	101	122	104
Florida	100	111	104	120	125	105	115
Georgia	100	104	104	107	106	117	110
Hawaii	100	128	134	178	141	131	107
Idaho	100	153	128	137	127	152	101
Illinois	100	94	98	100	93	93	101
Kentucky	100	82	86	70	70	76	100
Louisiana	100	109	115	126	136	131	98
Maryland	100	94	80	86	90	79	108
Massachusetts	100	107	118	27	45	48	102
Michigan	100	88	87	89	113	120	102
New Jersey	100	92	121	121	119	130	103
New Mexico	100	89	116	201	170	210	107
North Carolina	100	115	136	125	118	83	107
Ohio	100	96	102	108	104	99	101
Oregon	100	104	114	125	99	81	105
Utah	100	58	71	42	85	50	103
Virginia	100	54	62	75	75	82	108
Washington	100	103	102	131	108	93	109
Wisconsin	100	106	116	121	127	125	102
			States with no intermediate appellate court				
Delaware	100	60	60	80	80	120	110
District of Columbia	100	95	89	113	72	58	97
New Hampshire	100	95	89	86	84	97	113
Rhode Island	100	143	33	108	94	89	104
South Dakota	100	63	119	100	130	144	101
Vermont	100	76	96	124	128	136	107
West Virginia	100	107	124	159	126	128	95
			States with multiple appellate courts at any level				
Alabama Supreme Court	100	85	107	100	107	113	103
Oklahoma Supreme Court	100	76	88	76	76	114	98
Texas Supreme Court	100	103	109	104	110	100	106
Texas Court of Criminal Appeals	100	106	106	105	111	140	106

Source: Table 14, Part III
National Center for State Courts, 1991

discretionary jurisdiction. There is little evidence to suggest that as the number of petitions filed expands the percentage granted tends to decrease. This may have occurred in California, Georgia, Michigan, and New Mexico. The differences are often small, however, and other factors, such as changing jurisdiction or specific legislation that generated a burst of petitions in a particular year, may in fact explain the change over time in the percentage of petitions that the court granted. The reverse pattern of declining discretionary petitions and higher percentages being granted is even less apparent. COLRs in which the number of petitions declined did not tend to grant a correspondingly larger percentage. Oregon is a plausible example of where such a tradeoff may have occurred, as, to a lesser degree are Illinois and Virginia. However, in most courts decreasing caseloads were not predictably associated with a change in the percentage of petitions that are granted. The percentage of petitions granted fluctuates from year to year in both Texas COLRs, one that has a stable flow of new petitions and one that has a substantial increase in the number being filed.

TEXT TABLE 9: Trends in Total Discretionary Cases Filed, 1984–1989

State	Discretionary Filings Index 1984	Discretionary Filings Index 1985	Discretionary Filings Index 1986	Discretionary Filings Index 1987	Discretionary Filings Index 1988	Discretionary Filings Index 1989	Total Population Growth 1984 to 1989
	Intermediate Appellate Courts						
	States with one COLR and one IAC						
Alaska	100	102	132	86	98	98	105
Arizona	100	80	98	102	120	104	117
California	100	102	107	115	120	119	113
Florida	100	100	116	116	116	115	115
Georgia	100	103	104	118	115	130	110
Kentucky	100	122	119	114	116	113	100
Louisiana	100	138	164	192	210	227	98
Maryland	100	62	78	95	71	75	108
New Mexico	100	119	91	100	112	77	107
North Carolina	100	103	116	103	95	82	107
Washington	100	122	141	132	141	121	109
Wisconsin	100	93	98	90	93	78	102

Source: Table 14, Part III

National Center for State Courts, 1991

TEXT TABLE 10: Discretionary Petitions Filed and the Percentage Granted, 1984–1989

State	Discretionary Filings 1984	Percent Granted 1984	Percent Granted 1985	Percent Granted 1986	Percent Granted 1987	Percent Granted 1988	Percent Granted 1989	Discretionary Filings 1989
	Courts of Last Resort							
	States with one COLR and one IAC							
California	3,991	8	7	6	5	5	4	4,214.0
Georgia	941	17	15	13	12	15	14	1,101.0
Hawaii	32	16	27	16	18	22	31	42.0
Illinois	1,675	12	10	10	9	13	9	1,558.0
Louisiana	2,126	17	20	17	21	21	22	2,776.0
Maryland	761	18	13	17	16	21	15	598.0
Massachusetts	1,246	15	16	14	62	35	35	592.0
Michigan	2,347	4	6	6	3	3	2	2,805.0
New Mexico	174	35	43	33	13	14	7	366.0
North Carolina	541	13	11	8	9	9	15	447.0
Ohio	1,704	9	10	12	11	11	10	1,686.0
Oregon	870	12	10	14	13	14	14	709.0
Virginia	1,915	16	23	16	11	13	20	1,573.0
Wisconsin	718	12	13	12	24	20	10	896.0
	States with no intermediate appellate court							
West Virginia	1,282	42	35	37	39	49	36	1,644.0
	States with multiple appellate courts at any level							
Pennsylvania Supreme Court	1,537	12	9	11	12	10	10	2,227.0
Texas Supreme Court	1,130	9	15	12	15	14	7	1,126.0
Texas Court of Criminal Appeals	1,281	23	19	15	27	22	14	1,792.0

Source: Table 5, Part III

National Center for State Courts, 1991

Conclusion

State appellate caseloads continued to grow after 1984. It is estimated that by 1989 mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions had each increased by one-eighth (12.3 percent). COLRs and IACs had similar overall increases in their mandatory caseloads, but growth in discretionary caseloads was primarily experienced by IACs.

Recent trends in appellate court filings mark a sharp departure in two respects. First, observers of state appellate courts have tended to speak as if states were experiencing common changes in their caseloads. This is not plausible with reference to the second half of the 1980s. The divergent experience is particularly noteworthy among COLRs, but IACs also exhibit a wide range of situations. Second, only particular state COLRs or IACs continue to experience the rapid growth that was found in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, when state appellate caseloads doubled in each decade. So briskly did appeals of final judgments grow between 1973 and 1982 that they outstripped growth in the national population by ten-fold and the growth in new appellate judgeships by three-fold.[25] This contrasts with the 1984-89 period. Growth in mandatory appeals over those years occurred at about twice the rate of national population growth (which was 5.9 percent) and only outstripped the growth in new appellate judgeships by the narrowest of margins.[26]

Diversity is therefore the main feature of appellate courts in the late 1980s. That diversity is evident in the split between courts experiencing an increase and those experiencing a decrease, as well as in those courts that seem to have found a stable caseload level. For any pair of adjacent years, the diversity is evident in the likelihood that COLRs or IACs will move upward or downward. That year to year variation is made particularly significant by the extent of many of those changes. Appellate court trends resemble those found for tort cases rather than those observed for felony cases, or indeed for contract and real property rights cases.

In concluding, however, attention should be drawn to the plight of those states in which caseload growth is continuing, thus adding substantial numbers of new cases each year to already overburdened dockets. A partial list of states thus affected includes Alabama, Arizona, California, Delaware, Ohio, and Texas. Other states may be experiencing comparable growth at both appellate levels (or in the COLR in a single-tier system), but trend data were not available. Serious problems might have been identified in some of the other states examined in Part II if judgeships and other court resources were used to trace changing caseloads per judge.

This review of recent caseload trends finds that 1989 was part of a period of flux in the state courts. The main consequence is that it is unwise to speak of the state appellate or trial courts as if they are experiencing similar changes in their caseloads. Differences among states far outweigh any consistencies that emerged.

Consistencies were primarily found at the trial court level, particularly for felony cases. There is a strong upward trend in felony case filings, significantly increasing the number of serious cases entering the trial courts of most states. A comparable growth is not evident among civil cases in general. Tort cases, the focus of concern in the recent past, are not consistently increasing across the country. An upward trend may be present in some states, but the distinguishing feature of tort case filings in recent years is their susceptibility to short-term adjustments in response to tort reform legislation. It is too early to say if those adjustments will meet the objectives that led to the legislation being introduced. Contract and real property rights cases, two other major categories within the civil caseload, do provide stronger evidence of an upward trend.

At the appellate level, it is difficult to speak of a national pattern that accurately describes the situation of most or even a substantial number of cases. Mandatory appellate filings in state IACs do appear to be increasing. But only a few states are recording increases comparable to those experienced in the 1970s and early 1980s. For many states, the uncertainty created by caseloads that sharply decrease or increase from year to year may have presented the most serious challenge in the late 1980s.

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[25] T. Marvel and S. Lindgren, *The Growth of Appeal*. Washington D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 1985.

[26] The comparison is not exact since the 1984-89 trends are based on all mandatory appeals, not only those from final judgments. Also, the contrast between growth in filings and judgeships is limited here to IACs.

PART 3

1989 STATE COURT CASELOAD TABLES

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TABLE 1: Reported National Caseload for State Appellate Courts, 1989

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
Courts of last resort:		
I. Mandatory jurisdiction cases:		
A. Number of reported complete cases	18,150	14,836
Number of courts reporting complete data	36	26
B. Number of reported complete cases that include some discretionary petitions	6,548	7,049
Number of courts reporting complete data with some discretionary petitions	10	13
C. Number of reported cases that are incomplete	539	498
Number of courts reporting incomplete data	2	2
D. Number of reported cases that are incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	443	421
Number of courts reporting cases that are incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	1	1
II. Discretionary jurisdiction petitions:		
A. Number of reported complete petitions	34,871	27,036
Number of courts reporting complete petitions	36	28
B. Number of reported complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	1,004	5,720
Number of courts reporting complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	1	4
C. Number of reported petitions that are incomplete	4,916	5,049
Number of courts reporting incomplete petitions	8	6
D. Number of reported cases that are incomplete and include some mandatory cases	2,227	0
Number of courts reporting cases that are incomplete and include some mandatory cases	1	0
Intermediate appellate courts:		
I. Mandatory jurisdiction cases:		
A. Number of reported complete cases	88,615	83,147
Number of courts reporting complete data	32	26
B. Number of reported complete cases that include some discretionary petitions	50,387	57,654
Number of courts reporting complete data with some discretionary petitions	9	14
C. Number of reported cases that are incomplete	3,115	0
Number of courts reporting incomplete data	1	0
D. Number of reported cases that are incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	0	0
Number of courts reporting cases that are incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	0	0
II. Discretionary jurisdiction petitions:		
A. Number of reported complete petitions	18,461	15,149
Number of courts reporting complete petitions	19	12
B. Number of reported complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	0	1,777
Number of courts reporting complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	0	1
C. Number of reported petitions that are incomplete	295	283
Number of courts reporting incomplete petitions	1	1
D. Number of reported cases that are incomplete and include some mandatory cases	0	0
Number of courts reporting cases that are incomplete and include some mandatory cases	0	0

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TABLE 1: Reported National Caseload for State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

Summary section for all appellate courts:

	Reported filings		
	COLR	IAC	Total
A. Number of reported complete cases/petitions	53,021	107,076	160,097
B. Number of reported complete cases/petitions that include other case types	7,552	50,387	57,939
C. Number of reported cases/petitions that are incomplete	5,455	3,410	8,865
D. Number of reported cases that are incomplete and include some other case types	2,670	0	2,670
Total	68,698	160,873	229,571

TABLE 2: Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts, 1989

TOTAL CASES FILED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases filed	Total discretionary petitions filed	Total discretionary petitions filed granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed granted	
				Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court							
ALASKA							
Supreme Court	342	251	45	593	119	387	77
Court of Appeals	404	62	NA	466	155		
State Total	746	313		1,059	132		
ARIZONA							
Supreme Court	159 A	1,004 B	NA	1,163	233		
Court of Appeals	3,858	52	NA	3,910	217		
State Total	4,017 *	1,056 *		5,073	221		
ARKANSAS							
Supreme Court	443 C	(C)	NA	443	63		
Court of Appeals	1,079	NJ	NJ	1,079	180	1,079	180
State Total	1,522 *			1,522	117		
CALIFORNIA							
Supreme Court	380 A	4,214	187 A	4,594	656	567	81
Courts of Appeal	11,542	6,966	677	18,508	210	12,219	139
State Total	11,922 *	11,180	864 *	23,102	243	12,786	135
COLORADO							
Supreme Court	205	993	NA	1,198	171		
Court of Appeals	2,012	NJ	NJ	2,012	155	2,012	155
State Total	2,217	993		3,210	161		
CONNECTICUT							
Supreme Court	274	204	38	478	68	312	45
Appellate Court	985	105	47	1,090	121	1,032	115
State Total	1,259	309	85	1,568	98	1,344	84
FLORIDA							
Supreme Court	642	1,111	NA	1,753	250		
District Courts of Appeal	13,924	2,259	NA	16,183	352		
State Total	14,566	3,370		17,936	338		
GEORGIA							
Supreme Court	674 B	1,101	155 A	1,775	254	829	118
Court of Appeals	2,361 B	809	(B)	3,170	352	2,361	262
State Total	3,035 *	1,910		4,945	309	3,190	199

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases disposed	Total discretionary petitions disposed	Total discretionary petitions granted disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted disposed	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court							
ALASKA							
Supreme Court	298	243	NA	541		COLR	1
Court of Appeals	431	56	NA	487		IAC	1
State Total	729	299		1,028			
ARIZONA							
Supreme Court	133 A	995 B	99 B	1,128	232	COLR	6
Court of Appeals	3,478	53	NA	3,531		IAC	6
State Total	3,611 *	1,048 *		4,659			
ARKANSAS							
Supreme Court	421 C	(C)	NA	421		COLR	2
Court of Appeals	978	NJ	NJ	978	978	IAC	2
State Total	1,399 *			1,399			
CALIFORNIA							
Supreme Court	46 A	4,442	NA	4,488		COLR	6
Courts of Appeal	13,886	7,070	NA	20,956		IAC	2
State Total	13,932 *	11,512		25,444			
COLORADO							
Supreme Court	(B)	1,215 B	NA	1,215		COLR	1
Court of Appeals	2,193	NJ	NJ	2,193	2,193	IAC	1
State Total		1,215 *		3,408			
CONNECTICUT							
Supreme Court	296 B	(B)	NA	296		COLR	1
Appellate Court	1,135	NA	NA			IAC	1
State Total	1,431 *						
FLORIDA							
Supreme Court	580	965	NA	1,545		COLR	1
District Courts of Appeal	14,073	1,893	NA	15,966		IAC	1
State Total	14,653	2,858		17,511			
GEORGIA							
Supreme Court	(B)	1,885 B	NA	1,885		COLR	2
Court of Appeals	1,918 B	706	(B)	2,624	1,918	IAC	2
State Total		2,591 *		4,509			

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TABLE 2: Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

TOTAL CASES FILED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases filed	Total discretionary petitions filed	Total discretionary petitions filed granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed granted	
				Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
HAWAII							
Supreme Court	650 B	42	13	692	138	663	133
Intermediate Court of Appeals	140	NJ	NJ	140	47	140	47
State Total	790 *	42	13	832	104	803	100
IDAHO							
Supreme Court	366 B	91	NA	457	91		
Court of Appeals	221	NJ	NJ	221	74	221	74
State Total	587 *	91		678	85		
ILLINOIS **							
Supreme Court	153	1,558	136	1,711	244	289	41
Appellate Court	8,139 B	(B)	NA	8,139	189		
State Total	8,292 *			9,850	197		
INDIANA							
Supreme Court	336	565	NA	901	180		
Court of Appeals	1,516	81	57	1,597	123	1,573	121
State Total	1,852	646		2,498	139		
IOWA							
Supreme Court	1,303 B	NA	NA				
Court of Appeals	678	NJ	NJ	678	113	678	113
State Total	1,981 *						
KANSAS							
Supreme Court	179	526	108	705	101	287	41
Court of Appeals	1,154 B	(B)	NA	1,154	115		
State Total	1,333 *			1,859	109		
KENTUCKY							
Supreme Court	304	748 A	NA	1,052	150		
Court of Appeals	2,712	89	NA	2,801	200		
State Total	3,016	837 *		3,853	183		
LOUISIANA							
Supreme Court	108	2,776	623	2,884	412	731	104
Courts of Appeal	3,562	4,189	1,356	7,751	149	4,918	95
State Total	3,670	6,965	1,979	10,635	180	5,649	96

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases disposed	Total discretionary petitions disposed	Total discretionary petitions granted disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted disposed	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
HAWAII							
Supreme Court	749 B	45	(B)	794	749	COLR	2
Intermediate Court of Appeals	138	NJ	NJ	138	138	IAC	2
State Total	887 *	45		932	887		
IDAHO							
Supreme Court	347 B	88	(B)	435	347	COLR	1
Court of Appeals	231	NJ	NJ	231	231	IAC	4
State Total	578 *	88		666	578		
ILLINOIS							
Supreme Court	191	1,484	118	1,675	309	COLR	1
Appellate Court	7,722 B	(B)	NA	7,722		IAC	1
State Total	7,913 *			9,397			
INDIANA							
Supreme Court	418	599	56	1,017	474	COLR	6
Court of Appeals	1,334	76	52	1,410	1,386	IAC	6
State Total	1,752	675	108	2,427	1,860		
IOWA							
Supreme Court	970 B	303 A	71	1,273	1,041	COLR	1
Court of Appeals	799	NJ	NJ	799	799	IAC	4
State Total	1,769 *	303 *	71	2,072	1,840		
KANSAS							
Supreme Court	290	NA	NA			COLR	5
Court of Appeals	1,218 B	(B)	NA	1,218		IAC	5
State Total	1,508 *						
KENTUCKY							
Supreme Court	305	640 A	NA	945		COLR	6
Court of Appeals	2,438	89	NA	2,527		IAC	3
State Total	2,743	729 *		3,472			
LOUISIANA							
Supreme Court	108	2,633	458	2,741	566	COLR	2
Courts of Appeal	3,646	4,138	1,351	7,784	4,997	IAC	2
State Total	3,754	6,771	1,809	10,525	5,563		

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TABLE 2: Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

TOTAL CASES FILED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases filed	Total discretionary petitions filed	Total discretionary petitions filed granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed granted	
				Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
MARYLAND							
Court of Appeals	205 B	598	91	803	115	296	42
Court of Special Appeals	1,841	230	12	2,071	159	1,853	143
State Total	2,046 *	828	103	2,874	144	2,149	107
MASSACHUSETTS							
Supreme Judicial Court	75	592	209	667	95	284	41
Appeals Court	1,451 B	959	NA	2,410	172		
State Total	1,526 *	1,551		3,077	147		
MICHIGAN							
Supreme Court	4	2,805	68	2,809	401	72	10
Court of Appeals	10,951 B	(B)	NA	10,951	608		
State Total	10,955 *			13,760	550		
MINNESOTA							
Supreme Court	248	711	130	959	137	378	54
Court of Appeals	1,772	295 A	88 A	2,067	159	1,860	143
State Total	2,020	1,006 *	218 *	3,026	151	2,238	112
MISSOURI							
Supreme Court	227	857	79	1,084	155	306	44
Court of Appeals	3,659	NJ	NJ	3,659	114	3,659	114
State Total	3,886	857	79	4,743	122	3,965	102
NEW JERSEY							
Supreme Court	413	1,482 A	162	1,895	271	575	82
Appellate Div. Superior Court	6,492 B	NA	(B)			6,492	232
State Total	6,905 *					7,067	202
NEW MEXICO***							
Supreme Court	368	366	27	734	147	395	79
Court of Appeals	777	44	15	821	117	792	113
State Total	1,145	410	42	1,555	130	1,187	99
NORTH CAROLINA							
Supreme Court	109	447	68	556	79	177	25
Court of Appeals	1,378	385	40	1,763	147	1,418	118
State Total	1,487	832	108	2,319	122	1,595	84

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases disposed	Total discretionary petitions disposed	Total discretionary petitions granted disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted disposed	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
MARYLAND							
Court of Appeals	221 B	543	NA	764		COLR	2
Court of Special Appeals	1,811	230	NA	2,041		IAC	2
State Total	2,032 *	773		2,805			
MASSACHUSETTS							
Supreme Judicial Court	(B)	NA	250 B		250	COLR	2
Appeals Court	NA	NA	NA			IAC	2
State Total							
MICHIGAN							
Supreme Court	(B)	2,453 B	NA	2,453		COLR	1
Court of Appeals	8,983 B	(B)	NA	8,983		IAC	1
State Total				11,436			
MINNESOTA							
Supreme Court	242	683	120	925	362	COLR	1
Court of Appeals	1,872	283 A	85 A	2,155	1,957	IAC	1
State Total	2,114	966 *	205 *	3,080	2,319		
MISSOURI							
Supreme Court	227	871	97	1,098	324	COLR	1
Court of Appeals	3,331	NJ	NJ	3,331	3,331	IAC	1
State Total	3,558	871	97	4,429	3,655		
NEW JERSEY							
Supreme Court	383	1,472 A	NA	1,855		COLR	1
Appellate Div. Superior Court	6,531 B	NA	(B)		6,531	IAC	1
State Total	6,914 *						
NEW MEXICO							
Supreme Court	365 A	344	NJ	709	365	COLR	5
Court of Appeals	741 B	(B)	NA	741		IAC	5
State Total	1,106 *			1,450			
NORTH CAROLINA							
Supreme Court	95	397	59	492	154	COLR	2
Court of Appeals	1,188 B	385	(B)	1,573	1,188	IAC	2
State Total	1,283 *	782		2,065	1,342		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

TOTAL CASES FILED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases filed	Total discretionary petitions filed	Total discretionary petitions filed granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed granted	
				Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
NORTH DAKOTA							
Supreme Court	397	0	1	397	79	398	80
Court of Appeals	0	NJ	NJ	0	0	0	0
State Total	397	0	1	397	50	398	50
OHIO							
Supreme Court	535	1,686	161	2,221	317	696	99
Court of Appeals	10,771	NJ	NJ	10,771	183	10,771	183
State Total	11,306	1,686	161	12,992	197	11,467	174
OREGON							
Supreme Court	217	709	101	926	132	318	45
Court of Appeals	3,795	NJ	NJ	3,795	380	3,795	380
State Total	4,012	709	101	4,721	278	4,113	242
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Supreme Court	463	43 A	43	506	101	506	101
Court of Appeals	448	NJ	NJ	448	75	448	75
State Total	911	43 *	43	954	87	954	87
UTAH							
Supreme Court	498	36	NA	534	107		
Court of Appeals	764	NA	22			786	112
State Total	1,262						
VIRGINIA							
Supreme Court	NA	1,573	321				
Court of Appeals	443	1,523	267 A	1,966	197	710	71
State Total		3,096	588 *				
WASHINGTON							
Supreme Court	101 B	821 A	NA	922	102		
Court of Appeals	3,222	318	NA	3,540	221		
State Total	3,323 *	1,139 *		4,462	178		
WISCONSIN							
Supreme Court	NJ	896	90	896	128	90	13
Court of Appeals	2,355	191	NA	2,546	196		
State Total	2,355	1,087		3,442	172		

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases disposed	Total discretionary petitions disposed	Total discretionary petitions granted disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted disposed	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
NORTH DAKOTA							
Supreme Court	381	0	2	381	383	COLR	1
Court of Appeals	0	NJ	NJ	0	0	IAC	
State Total	381	0	2	381	383		
OHIO							
Supreme Court	457	1,372	141	1,829	598	COLR	1
Court of Appeals	9,871	NJ	NJ	9,871	9,871	IAC	1
State Total	10,328	1,372	141	11,700	10,469		
OREGON							
Supreme Court	301 B	733	(B)	1,034	301	COLR	1
Court of Appeals	3,601	NJ	NJ	3,601	3,601	IAC	1
State Total	3,902 *	733		4,635	3,902		
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Supreme Court	537 B	(B)	NA	537		COLR	2
Court of Appeals	377	NJ	NJ	377	377	IAC	4
State Total	914 *			914			
UTAH							
Supreme Court	642 B	(B)	NA	642		COLR	1
Court of Appeals	785 B	(B)	NA	785		IAC	1
State Total	1,427 *			1,427			
VIRGINIA							
Supreme Court	NA	1,800	NA			COLR	1
Court of Appeals	(B)	1,777 B	NA	1,777		IAC	1
State Total		3,577 *					
WASHINGTON							
Supreme Court	127 B	829 A	34	956	161	COLR	6
Court of Appeals	2,902	305	NA	3,207		IAC	6
State Total	3,029 *	1,134 *		4,163			
WISCONSIN							
Supreme Court	NJ	802	187	802	187	COLR	6
Court of Appeals	2,414	148	NA	2,562		IAC	6
State Total	2,414	950		3,364			

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

TOTAL CASES FILED

				Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed granted	
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases filed	Total discretionary petitions filed	Total discretionary petitions filed granted	Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
	States with no intermediate appellate court						
DELAWARE							
Supreme Court	517 B	6 A	NA	523	105		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Court of Appeals	1,515	49	5	1,564	174	1,520	169
MAINE							
Supreme Judicial Court	540 C	(C)	NA	540	77		
MISSISSIPPI							
Supreme Court	773	43	6	816	91	779	87
MONTANA							
Supreme Court	627	6	NA	633	90		
NEBRASKA							
Supreme Court	1,497 B	(B)	NA	1,497	214		
NEVADA							
Supreme Court	997	NJ	NJ	997	199	997	199
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Supreme Court	NJ	587	NA	587	117		
RHODE ISLAND							
Supreme Court	455	179	NA	634	127		
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Supreme Court	387 B	39 A	NA	426	85		
VERMONT							
Supreme Court	619	34	NA	653	131		
WEST VIRGINIA							
Supreme Court of Appeals	NJ	1,644	593	1,644	329	593	119
WYOMING							
Supreme Court	321	NJ	NJ	321	64	321	64

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases disposed	Total discretionary petitions disposed	Total discretionary petitions granted disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted disposed	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
States with no intermediate appellate court							
DELAWARE							
Supreme Court	480 B	5 A	NA	485		COLR	1
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Court of Appeals	1,598	49	4	1,647	1,602	COLR	1
MAINE							
Supreme Judicial Court	452 C	(C)	NA	452		COLR	1
MISSISSIPPI							
Supreme Court	840	32	0	872	340	COLR	2
MONTANA							
Supreme Court	618 B	(B)	NA	618		COLR	1
NEBRASKA							
Supreme Court	1,277 B	(B)	NA	1,277		COLR	1
NEVADA							
Supreme Court	1,047	NJ	NJ	1,047	1,047	COLR	2
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Supreme Court	NJ	532	NA	532		COLR	1
RHODE ISLAND							
Supreme Court	396	169	NA	565		COLR	1
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Supreme Court	484 B	(B)	NA	484		COLR	2
VERMONT							
Supreme Court	624	35	NA	659		COLR	1
WEST VIRGINIA							
Supreme Court of Appeals	NJ	1,735	702	1,735	702	COLR	1
WYOMING							
Supreme Court	363	NJ	NJ	363	363	COLR	1

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: **Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts, 1989.** (continued)

TOTAL CASES FILED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases filed	Total discretionary petitions filed	Total discretionary petitions filed granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions filed granted	
				Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
	States with multiple appellate courts at any level						
ALABAMA							
Supreme Court	908	806	NA	1,714	190		
Court of Civil Appeals	556	NJ	NJ	556	185	556	185
Court of Criminal Appeals	2,132	NJ	NJ	2,132	426	2,132	426
State Total	3,596	806		4,402	259		
NEW YORK							
Court of Appeals	330 B	4,411	NA	4,741	677		
Appellate Div. of the Sup. Ct.	11,338 B	(B)	NA	11,338	241		
Appellate Terms of the Sup. Ct.	2,461 B	(B)	NA	2,461	164		
State Total	14,129 *			18,540	269		
OKLAHOMA							
Supreme Court	862	443	NA	1,305	145		
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,192 B	(B)	85	1,192	397	1,277	426
Court of Appeals	1,373	NJ	NJ	1,373	114	1,373	114
State Total	3,427 *			3,870	161		
PENNSYLVANIA							
Supreme Court	94	2,227 C	230 C	2,321	332	324	46
Superior Court	6,040 B	NA	(B)			6,040	671
Commonwealth Court	3,115 A	29	NA	3,144	210		
State Total	9,249 *						
TENNESSEE							
Supreme Court	161	820	64	981	196	225	45
Court of Criminal Appeals	889	67	25	956	106	914	102
Court of Appeals	994	103	12	1,097	91	1,006	84
State Total	2,044	990	101	3,034	117	2,145	83
TEXAS							
Supreme Court	3	1,126	76	1,129	125	79	9
Court of Criminal Appeal	3,504	1,792	246	5,296	588	3,750	417
Courts of Appeals	8,813	NJ	NJ	8,813	110	8,813	110
State Total	12,320	2,918	322	15,238	155	12,642	129

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED

State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases disposed	Total discretionary petitions disposed	Total discretionary petitions granted disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions disposed	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted disposed	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
States with multiple appellate courts at any level							
ALABAMA							
Supreme Court	620	1,104	NA	1,724		COLR	1
Court of Civil Appeals	528	NJ	NJ	528	528	IAC	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,927	NJ	NJ	1,927	1,927	IAC	1
State Total	3,075	1,104		4,179			
NEW YORK							
Court of Appeals	295	3,621	214	3,916	509	COLR	1
Appellate Div. of the Sup. Ct.	14,534 B	(B)	NA	14,534		IAC	2
Appellate Terms of the Sup. Ct.	2,034 B	(B)	NA	2,034		IAC	2
State Total	16,863 *			20,484			
OKLAHOMA							
Supreme Court	NA	NA	NA			COLR	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	773	312	85	1,085	858	COLR	2
Court of Appeals	1,337	NJ	NJ	1,337	1,337	IAC	4
State Total							
PENNSYLVANIA							
Supreme Court	NA	NA	NA			COLR	6
Superior Court	6,218 B	NA	(B)		6,218	IAC	1
Commonwealth Court	3,973 B	(B)	NA	3,973		IAC	1
State Total							
TENNESSEE							
Supreme Court	(B)	1,057 B	NA	1,057		COLR	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	794 B	35 A	NA	829		IAC	1
Court of Appeals	1,015 B	97	NA	1,112		IAC	1
State Total		1,189 *		2,998			
TEXAS							
Supreme Court	1	1,096	98	1,097	99	COLR	1
Court of Criminal Appeal	3,806	2,107	456	5,913	4,262	COLR	5
Courts of Appeals	8,416	NJ	NJ	8,416	8,416	IAC	1
State Total	12,223	3,203	554	15,426	12,777		

Table 2: Reported Total Caseload for State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

COURT TYPE:

COLR = Court of last resort
IAC = Intermediate appellate court

POINTS AT WHICH CASES ARE COUNTED:

1 = At the notice of appeal
2 = At the filing of trial record
3 = At the filing of trial record and complete briefs
4 = At transfer
5 = Other
6 = Varies

NOTE: NA indicates that the data are unavailable. Blank spaces indicate that a calculation is inappropriate.

NJ = This case type is not handled in this court.
-- = Inapplicable

( ) = **Mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction** cases cannot be separately identified. Data are reported within the jurisdiction where the court has the majority of its caseload.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that the data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an effect on the state's total.

**Total mandatory cases filed and disposed in the Illinois Supreme Court do not include the Miscellaneous Record cases.
***Total mandatory cases filed in the New Mexico Supreme Court do not include petitions for extension of time in criminal cases.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:
- Arizona--Supreme Court--Data do not include **mandatory judge disciplinary** cases.
- California--Supreme Court--Total **mandatory filed** data do not include **mandatory judge disciplinary** cases. **Mandatory** disposed data do not include **disciplinary** cases which are estimated to make the total less than 75% complete. Total **discretionary petitions** granted do not include **original proceedings** and **administrative agency** cases.
- Delaware--Supreme Court--Data do not include some **discretionary interlocutory decision** cases, which are reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
- Georgia--Supreme Court--**Discretionary petitions** granted do not include **interlocutory decisions.**
- Iowa--Supreme Court--**Discretionary petitions** granted and disposed do not include some **discretionary original proceedings.**
- Kentucky--Supreme Court--Data do not include some **discretionary unclassified petitions.**
- Minnesota--Court of Appeals--Total **discretionary petitions** do not include **discretionary petitions of final judgments** that were denied. Total **discretionary petitions** granted do not include "other" **discretionary petitions** granted.
- New Jersey--Supreme Court--Data do not include **discretionary interlocutory decisions.**
- New Mexico--Supreme Court--Total **mandatory** disposed cases do not include **administrative agency cases.**
- Pennsylvania--Commonwealth Court--Total **mandatory** cases filed do not include transfers from the Superior Court and the Court of Common Pleas.
- South Carolina--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include **discretionary petitions** that were denied or otherwise dismissed/withdrawn, or settled.
- South Dakota--Supreme Court--Data do not include **advisory opinions** reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
- Tennessee--Court of Criminal Appeals--Disposed data do not include some cases which are reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
- Virginia--Court of Appeals--Filed data do not include **original proceeding petitions** granted.
- Washington--Supreme Court--Data do not include some **discretionary petitions.**

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Arizona--Supreme Court--Data include **mandatory judge disciplinary** cases.
- Colorado--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
- Connecticut--Supreme Court--Total mandatory cases disposed include some **discretionary petitions.**
- Delaware--Supreme Court--Data include some **discretionary petitions** and filed data include **discretionary petitions** that were granted.
- Georgia--Supreme Court--Total **mandatory** filed data include a few **discretionary petitions** that were **granted** and refiled as appeals. **Discretionary petitions** disposed data represent some double counting because they include all **mandatory appeals** and **discretionary petitions granted** that are refiled as a **mandatory** case.
  - --Court of Appeals--Total **mandatory** data include all **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as **appeals.**
- Hawaii--Supreme Court--Data include a few **discretionary petitions granted**
- Idaho--Supreme Court--Data include **discretionary petitions** reviewed on the merits. **Mandatory** disposed data include petitions granted disposed.
- Illinois--Appellate Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions.**
- Iowa--Supreme Court--Data include some **discretionary petitions** that were dismissed by the Court, which are reported with **mandatory** jurisdiction cases.
- Kansas--Court of Appeals--Data include all **discretionary petitions.**
- Maryland--Court of Appeals--Data include **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as **appeals.**
- Massachusetts--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all **mandatory** appeals disposed.
  - --Appeals Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions.**
- Michigan--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
  - --Court of Appeals--Total **mandatory** data include **discretionary petitions.**
- Montana--Supreme Court--**Mandatory** cases disposed include all **discretionary petitions.**
- Nebraska--Supreme Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions.**
- New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions that were granted.**
- New Mexico--Court of Appeals--Disposed data include all **discretionary petitions.**
- New York--Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions.**
  - --Appellate Terms of Supreme Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions.**
- North Carolina--Court of Appeals--**Mandatory** disposed data include **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals.
- Oklahoma--Court of Criminal Appeals--**Mandatory** filed data include all **discretionary petitions.**

Table 2: Reported Total Caseload for State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

Oregon--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all **discretionary petitions that were granted.**

Pennsylvania--Superior Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions that were granted.**
--Commonwealth Court--Disposed data include all **discretionary petitions.**

South Carolina--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **all discretionary petitions** that were disposed.

South Dakota--Filed data include **discretionary advisory opinions. Mandatory jurisdiction** dispositions include **all discretionary petitions.**

Tennessee--Supreme Court--**Discretionary petitions** disposed data include all **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
--Court of Appeals--Mandatory disposed cases include some **discretionary petitions.**
--Court of Criminal Appeals--**Mandatory jurisdiction** disposed data include some **discretionary petitions.**

Utah--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all **discretionary petitions.**
--Court of Appeals--Disposed data include all **discretionary petitions.**

Virginia--Court of Appeals--**Discretionary petitions** disposed data include all **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.

Washington--Supreme Court--Data include some **discretionary petitions.**

C: The following courts' data are both incomplete and overinclusive:

Arkansas--Supreme Court--Data include a few **discretionary petitions**, but do not include **mandatory attorney disciplinary** cases and **certified questions from the federal courts.**

Connecticut--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **mandatory** cases, but do not include some unclassified appeals and **judge disciplinary** cases.

Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Total **mandatory jurisdiction** data include **discretionary petitions**, but do not include **mandatory disciplinary** and **advisory opinion** cases.

Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Total **discretionary jurisdiction** filed data include noncase motions, but do not include **original proceeding petitions.**

TABLE 3: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court							
ALASKA							
Supreme Court	COLR	342	298	87	5	68	65
Court of Appeals	IAC	404	431	107	3	135	77
State Total		746	729	98	8	93	142
ARIZONA							
Supreme Court	COLR	159 A	133 A	84	5	32	4
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,858	3,478	90	18	214	108
State Total		4,017 *	3,611 *	90	23	175	113
ARKANSAS							
Supreme Court	COLR	443 C	421 C	95	7	63	18
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,079	978	91	6	180	45
State Total		1,522 *	1,399 *	92	13	117	63
CALIFORNIA							
Supreme Court	COLR	380 A	46		7	54	1
Courts of Appeal	IAC	11,542	13,886	120	88	131	40
State Total		11,922 *	13,932		95	125	41
COLORADO							
Supreme Court	COLR	205	(B)		7	29	6
Court of Appeals	IAC	2,012	2,193	109	13	155	61
State Total		2,217	2,193		20	111	67
CONNECTICUT							
Supreme Court	COLR	274	296 B		7	39	8
Appellate Court	IAC	985	1,135	115	9	109	30
State Total		1,259	1,431 *		16	79	39
FLORIDA							
Supreme Court	COLR	642	580	90	7	92	5
District Courts of Appeal	IAC	13,924	14,073	101	46	303	110
State Total		14,566	14,653	101	53	275	115
GEORGIA							
Supreme Court	COLR	674 B	(B)		7	96	10
Court of Appeals	IAC	2,361 B	1,918 B	81	9	262	37
State Total		3,035 *	1,918 *		16	190	47
HAWAII							
Supreme Court	COLR	650 B	749 B	115	5	130	58
Intermediate Court of Appeals	IAC	140	138	99	3	47	13
State Total		790 *	887 *	112	8	99	71

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TABLE 3: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
IDAHO							
Supreme Court	COLR	366 B	347 B	95	5	73	36
Court of Appeals	IAC	221	231	105	3	74	22
State Total		587 *	578 *	98	8	73	58
ILLINOIS							
Supreme Court	COLR	153	191	125	7	22	1
Appellate Court	IAC	8,139 B	7,722 B	95	43	189	70
State Total		8,292 *	7,913 *	95	50	166	71
INDIANA							
Supreme Court	COLR	336	418	124	5	67	6
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,516	1,334	88	13	117	27
State Total		1,852	1,752	95	18	103	33
IOWA							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,303 B	970 B	74	9	145	46
Court of Appeals	IAC	678	799	118	6	113	24
State Total		1,981 *	1,769 *	89	15	132	70
KANSAS							
Supreme Court	COLR	179	290	162	7	26	7
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,154 B	1,218 B	106	10	115	46
State Total		1,333 *	1,508 *	113	17	78	53
KENTUCKY							
Supreme Court	COLR	304	305	100	7	43	8
Court of Appeals	IAC	2,712	2,438	90	14	194	73
State Total		3,016	2,743	91	21	144	81
LOUISIANA							
Supreme Court	COLR	108	108	100	7	15	2
Courts of Appeal	IAC	3,562	3,646	102	48	74	81
State Total		3,670	3,754	102	55	67	84
MARYLAND							
Court of Appeals	COLR	205 B	221 B	108	7	29	4
Court of Special Appeals	IAC	1,841	1,811	98	13	142	39
State Total		2,046 *	2,032 *	99	20	102	44
MASSACHUSETTS							
Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	75	(B)		7	11	1
Appeals Court	IAC	1,451 B	NA		14	104	25
State Total		1,526 *			21	73	26
MICHIGAN							
Supreme Court	COLR	4	(B)		7	1	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	10,951 B	8,983 B	82	18	608	118
State Total		10,955 *	8,983 *		25	438	118

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TABLE 3: **Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989.** (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
MINNESOTA							
Supreme Court	COLR	248	242	98	7	35	6
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,772	1,872	106	13	136	41
State Total		2,020	2,114	105	20	101	46
MISSOURI							
Supreme Court	COLR	227	227	100	7	32	4
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,659	3,331	91	32	114	71
State Total		3,886	3,558	92	39	100	75
NEW JERSEY							
Supreme Court	COLR	413	383	93	7	59	5
Appellate Div. Superior Court	IAC	6,492 B	6,531 B	101	28	232	84
State Total		6,905 *	6,914 *	100	35	197	89
NEW MEXICO							
Supreme Court	COLR	368	365 A		5	74	24
Court of Appeals	IAC	777	741 B		7	111	51
State Total		1,145	1,106 *		12	95	75
NORTH CAROLINA							
Supreme Court	COLR	109	95	87	7	16	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,378	1,188 B		12	115	21
State Total		1,487	1,283 *		19	78	23
NORTH DAKOTA							
Supreme Court	COLR	397	381	96	5	79	60
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0		3		
State Total		397	381	96	8	50	60
OHIO							
Supreme Court	COLR	535	457	85	7	76	5
Court of Appeals	IAC	10,771	9,871	92	59	183	99
State Total		11,306	10,328	91	66	171	104
OREGON							
Supreme Court	COLR	217	301 B		7	31	8
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,795	3,601	95	10	380	135
State Total		4,012	3,902 *		17	236	142
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Supreme Court	COLR	463	537 B		5	93	13
Court of Appeals	IAC	448	377	84	6	75	13
State Total		911	914 *		11	83	26
UTAH							
Supreme Court	COLR	498	642 B		5	100	29
Court of Appeals	IAC	764	785 B		7	109	45
State Total		1,262	1,427 *		12	105	74

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TABLE 3: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
VIRGINIA							
Supreme Court	COLR	NA	NA		7		
Court of Appeals	IAC	443	(B)		10	44	7
State Total					17		
WASHINGTON							
Supreme Court	COLR	101 B	127 B	126	9	11	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,222	2,902	90	16	201	68
State Total		3,323 *	3,029 *	91	25	133	70
WISCONSIN							
Supreme Court	COLR	NJ	NJ		7		
Court of Appeals	IAC	2,355	2,414	103	13	181	48
State Total		2,355	2,414	103	20	118	48
States with no intermediate appellate court							
DELAWARE							
Supreme Court	COLR	517 B	480 B	93	5	103	77
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Court of Appeals	COLR	1,515	1,598	105	9	168	251
MAINE							
Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	540 C	452 C	84	7	77	44
MISSISSIPPI							
Supreme Court	COLR	773	840	109	9	86	29
MONTANA							
Supreme Court	COLR	627	618 B		7	90	78
NEBRASKA							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,497 B	1,277 B	85	7	214	93
NEVADA							
Supreme Court	COLR	997	1,047	105	5	199	90
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Supreme Court	COLR	NJ	NJ		5		
RHODE ISLAND							
Supreme Court	COLR	455	396	87	5	91	46
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Supreme Court	COLR	387 B	484 B	125	5	77	54
VERMONT							
Supreme Court	COLR	619	624	101	5	124	109

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TABLE 3: **Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)**

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
WEST VIRGINIA							
Supreme Court of Appeals	COLR	NJ	NJ		5		
WYOMING							
Supreme Court	COLR	321	363	113	5	64	68
States with multiple appellate courts at any level							
ALABAMA							
Supreme Court	COLR	908	620	68	9	101	22
Court of Civil Appeals	IAC	556	528	95	3	185	13
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	2,132	1,927	90	5	426	52
State Total		3,596	3,075	86	17	212	87
NEW YORK							
Court of Appeals	COLR	330 B	295		7	47	2
Appellate Div. of the Sup. Ct.	IAC	11,338 B	14,534 B	128	47	241	63
Appellate Terms of the Sup. Ct.	IAC	2,461 B	2,034 B	83	15	164	14
State Total		14,129 *	16,863 *		69	205	79
OKLAHOMA							
Supreme Court	COLR	862	NA		9	96	27
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	1,192 B	773		3	397	37
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,373	1,337	97	12	114	43
State Total		3,427 *			24	143	106
PENNSYLVANIA							
Supreme Court	COLR	94	NA		7	13	1
Superior Court	IAC	6,040 B	6,218 B	103	9	671	50
Commonwealth Court	IAC	3,115 A	3,973 B		15	208	26
State Total		9,249 *			31	298	77
TENNESSEE							
Supreme Court	COLR	161	NA		5	32	3
Court of Appeals	IAC	994	1,015 B		12	83	20
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	889	794 B		9	99	18
State Total		2,044			26	79	41
TEXAS							
Supreme Court	COLR	3	1	33	9	0	0
Court of Criminal Appeal	COLR	3,504	3,806	109	9	389	21
Courts of Appeals	IAC	8,813	8,416	95	80	110	52
State Total		12,320	12,223	99	98	126	73

Table 3: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989

COURT TYPE:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = **Intermediate Appellate Court**

NOTE: NA indicates that the data are unavailable. Blank spaces indicate that a calculation is inappropriate.

NJ = This case type is not handled in this court.
-- = Inapplicable

(B): **Mandatory jurisdiction** cases cannot be separately identified and are reported with **discretionary petitions**. (See Table 4.)

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote written for each court in the state. Each footnote has an effect on the state total.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:
- Arizona--Supreme Court--Data do not include **judge disciplinary** cases.
- California--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include **judge disciplinary** cases. Discretionary disposed data do not include **disciplinary** cases, which are estimated to make the total less than 75% complete.
- New Mexico--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include administrative agency cases.
- Pennsylvania--Commonwealth Court--Filed data do not include transfers from the Superior Court and the Court of Common Pleas.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Delaware--Supreme Court--Data include some **discretionary petitions** and **discretionary petitions** that were granted.
- Georgia--Supreme Court--**Mandatory jurisdiction** filed data include **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals.
  - --Court of Appeals--**Mandatory jurisdiction** data include **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals.
- Hawaii--Supreme Court--Data include **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals.
- Idaho--Supreme Court--Data include **discretionary petitions** reviewed on the merits. Disposed data include petitions granted disposed.
- Illinois--Appellate Court--Data include **discretionary petitions**.
- Iowa--Supreme Court--Filed data include **discretionary original proceedings**. Disposed data include some **discretionary** cases that were dismissed.
- Kansas--Court of Appeals--Data include all **discretionary** cases.
- Maryland--Court of Appeals--Data include **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals.
- Massachusetts--Appeals Court--Filed data include a **small** number of **discretionary interlocutory decision petitions**.
- Michigan--Court of Appeals--Data include **discretionary petitions**.
- Montana--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all **discretionary petitions**.
- Nebraska--Supreme Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions**.
- New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court--Data include **discretionary petitions that were granted**.
- New Mexico--Court of Appeals--Disposed data include **discretionary petitions**.
- New York--Court of Appeals--Data include **granted discretionary petitions**.
  - --Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court--Data include **discretionary petitions**.
  - --Appellate Terms of Supreme Court--Data include **discretionary petitions**.
- North Carolina--Court of Appeals--Data include **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals.
- Oklahoma--Supreme Court--Court of Criminal Appeals--Filed data include all **discretionary jurisdiction cases**.
- Oregon--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **discretionary petitions that were granted.**
- Pennsylvania--Superior Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions that were granted.**
  - --Commonwealth Court--Disposed data include **discretionary petitions**.
- South Carolina--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **all discretionary petitions** that were disposed.
- South Dakota--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all **discretionary jurisdiction** cases. Filed data include **advisory opinions.**
- Tennessee--Court of Criminal Appeals--Data include **some discretionary petitions.**
  - --Court of Appeals--Disposed data include some **discretionary petitions.**
- Utah--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **discretionary petitions.**
- Washington--Supreme Court--Data include some **discretionary petitions**.

C: The following courts' data are both incomplete and overinclusive:
- Arkansas--Supreme Court--Data include a few **discretionary petitions**, but do not include **mandatory attorney disciplinary** cases and **certified questions from the federal courts.**
- Connecticut--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **mandatory** cases, but do not include some unclassified appeals and **judge disciplinary** cases.
- Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Data include **discretionary petition** cases, but do not include **mandatory disciplinary** and **advisory opinion** cases.

TABLE 4: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1989

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court							
ALASKA							
Supreme Court	COLR	251	243	97	5	50	48
Court of Appeals	IAC	62	56	90	3	21	12
State Total		313	299	96	8	39	59
ARIZONA							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,004 B	995 B	99	5	201	28
Court of Appeals	IAC	52	53	102	18	3	1
State Total		1,056 *	1,048 *	99	23	46	30
ARKANSAS							
Supreme Court	COLR	NA	NA		7		
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		6		
State Total					13		
CALIFORNIA							
Supreme Court	COLR	4,214	4,442	105	7	602	14
Courts of Appeal	IAC	6,966	7,070	101	88	79	24
State Total		11,180	11,512	103	95	118	38
COLORADO							
Supreme Court	COLR	993	1,215 B		7	142	30
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		13		
State Total		993	1,215 *		20	50	30
CONNECTICUT							
Supreme Court	COLR	204	NA		7	29	6
Appellate Court	IAC	105	NA		9	12	3
State Total		309			16	19	10
FLORIDA							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,111	965	87	7	159	9
District Courts of Appeal	IAC	2,259	1,893	84	46	49	18
State Total		3,370	2,858	85	53	64	27
GEORGIA							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,101	1,885 B		7	157	17
Court of Appeals	IAC	809	706	87	9	90	13
State Total		1,910	2,591 *		16	119	30
HAWAII							
Supreme Court	COLR	42	45	107	5	8	4
Intermediate Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		3		
State Total		42	45	107	8	5	4

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TABLE 4: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
IDAHO							
Supreme Court	COLR	91	88	97	5	18	9
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		3		
State Total		91	88	97	8	11	9
ILLINOIS							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,558	1,484	95	7	223	13
Appellate Court	IAC	(B)	(B)		43		
State Total					50		
INDIANA							
Supreme Court	COLR	565	599	106	5	113	10
Court of Appeals	IAC	81	76	94	13	6	1
State Total		646	675	104	18	36	12
IOWA							
Supreme Court	COLR	NA	303 A		9		
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		6		
State Total			303 *		15		
KANSAS							
Supreme Court	COLR	526	NA		7	75	21
Court of Appeals	IAC	(B)	(B)		10		
State Total		526			17	31	21
KENTUCKY							
Supreme Court	COLR	748 A	640 A	86	7	107	20
Court of Appeals	IAC	89	89	100	14	6	2
State Total		837 *	729 *	87	21	40	22
LOUISIANA							
Supreme Court	COLR	2,776	2,633	95	7	397	63
Courts of Appeal	IAC	4,189	4,138	99	52	81	96
State Total		6,965	6,771	97	59	118	159
MARYLAND							
Court of Appeals	COLR	598	543	91	7	85	13
Court of Special Appeals	IAC	230	230	100	13	18	5
State Total		828	773	93	20	41	18
MASSACHUSETTS							
Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	592	NA		7	85	10
Appeals Court	IAC	959	NA		14	69	16
State Total		1,551			21	74	26
MICHIGAN							
Supreme Court	COLR	2,805	2,453 B		7	401	30
Court of Appeals	IAC	(B)	(B)		18		
State Total					25		

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TABLE 4: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1989 . (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
MINNESOTA							
Supreme Court	COLR	711	683	96	7	102	16
Court of Appeals	IAC	295 A	283 A	96	13	23	7
State Total		1,006 *	966 *	96	20	50	23
MISSOURI							
Supreme Court	COLR	857	871	102	7	122	17
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		32		
State Total		857	871	102	39	22	17
NEW JERSEY							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,482 A	1,472 A	99	7	212	19
Appellate Div. Superior Court	IAC	NA	NA		28		
State Total					35		
NEW MEXICO							
Supreme Court	COLR	366	344	94	5	73	24
Court of Appeals	IAC	44	(B)		7	6	3
State Total		410	344	94	12	34	27
NORTH CAROLINA							
Supreme Court	COLR	447	397	89	7	64	7
Court of Appeals	IAC	385	385	100	12	32	6
State Total		832	782	94	19	44	13
NORTH DAKOTA							
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0		5		
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		3		
State Total		0	0		8	0	0
OHIO							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,686	1,372	81	7	241	15
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		59		
State Total		1,686	1,372	81	66	26	15
OREGON							
Supreme Court	COLR	709	733	103	7	101	25
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		10		
State Total		709	733	103	17	42	25
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Supreme Court	COLR	43 A	(B)		5	9	1
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		6		
State Total		43 *			11	4	1
UTAH							
Supreme Court	COLR	36	(B)		5	7	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	NA	(B)		7		
State Total					12		

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TABLE 4: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
VIRGINIA							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,573	1,800	114	7	225	26
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,523	1,777 B		10	152	25
State Total		3,096	3,577 *		17	182	51
WASHINGTON							
Supreme Court	COLR	821 A	829 A	101	9	91	17
Court of Appeals	IAC	318	305	96	16	20	7
State Total		1,139 *	1,134 *	100	25	46	24
WISCONSIN							
Supreme Court	COLR	896	802	90	7	128	18
Court of Appeals	IAC	191	148	77	13	15	4
State Total		1,087	950	87	20	54	22
States with no intermediate appellate court							
DELAWARE							
Supreme Court	COLR	6 A	5 A	83	5	1	1
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Court of Appeals	COLR	49	49	100	9	5	8
MAINE							
Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	(B)	(B)		7		
MISSISSIPPI							
Supreme Court	COLR	43	32	74	9	5	2
MONTANA							
Supreme Court	COLR	6	(B)		7	1	1
NEBRASKA							
Supreme Court	COLR	(B)	(B)		7		
NEVADA							
Supreme Court	COLR	NJ	NJ		5		
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Supreme Court	COLR	587	532	91	5	117	53
RHODE ISLAND							
Supreme Court	COLR	179	169	94	5	36	18
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Supreme Court	COLR	39 A	(B)		5	8	5
VERMONT							
Supreme Court	COLR	34	35	103	5	7	6

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TABLE 4: **Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)**

State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
WEST VIRGINIA							
Supreme Court of Appeals	COLR	1,644	1,735	106	5	329	89
WYOMING							
Supreme Court	COLR	NJ	NJ		5		
States with multiple appellate courts at any level							
ALABAMA							
Supreme Court	COLR	806	1,104	137	9	90	20
Court of Civil Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		3		
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		5		
State Total		806	1,104	137	17	47	20
NEW YORK							
Court of Appeals	COLR	4,411	3,621	82	7	630	25
Appellate Div. of the Sup. Ct.	IAC	(B)	(B)		47		
Appellate Terms of the Sup. Ct.	IAC	(B)	(B)		15		
State Total					69		
OKLAHOMA							
Supreme Court	COLR	443	NA		9	49	14
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	(B)	312		3		
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		12		
State Total					24		
PENNSYLVANIA							
Supreme Court	COLR	2,227 C	NA		7	318	18
Superior Court	IAC	NA	NA		9		
Commonwealth Court	IAC	29	(B)		15	2	0
State Total					31		
TENNESSEE							
Supreme Court	COLR	820	1,057 B		5	164	17
Court of Appeals	IAC	103	97	94	12	9	2
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	67	35 A		9	7	1
State Total		990	1,189 *		26	38	20
TEXAS							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,126	1,096	97	9	125	7
Court of Criminal Appeal	COLR	1,792	2,107	118	9	199	11
Courts of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ		80		
State Total		2,918	3,203	110	98	30	17

Table 4: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1989

COURT TYPE:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court

NOTE: NA indicates that the data are unavailable. Blank spaces indicate that a calcuation is inappropriate.

NJ = This case type is not handled in this court.
-- = Inapplicable

(B): **Discretionary petitions** cannot be separately identified and are reported with **mandatory** cases. (See Table 3).

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote written for each court in the state. Each footnote has an effect on the state's total.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:
- Delaware--Supreme Court--Data do not include some **discretionary interlocutory petitions** and some **discretionary advisory opinions**.
- Iowa--Supreme Court--Discretionary petitions granted and disposed do not include some discretionary original proceedings.
- Kentucky--Supreme Court--Data do not include some **discretionary unclassified petitions**.
- Minnesota--Court of Appeals--Data do not include **petitions of final judgments** that were denied.
- New Jersey--Supreme Court--Data do not include **discretionary interlocutory petitions**.
- South Carolina--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include **discretionary petitions** that were denied or otherwise dismissed/withdrawn or settled.
- South Dakota--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include **advisory opinions**, which are reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
- Tennessee--Court of Criminal Appeals--Disposed data do not include some cases that are reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
- Washington--Supreme Court--Data do not include some cases that are reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Arizona--Supreme Court--Data include **mandatory judge disciplinary** cases.
- Colorado--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
- Georgia--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all **mandatory jurisdiction** cases and **discretionary petitions granted** that are refiled as a **mandatory** case.
- Michigan--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
- Tennessee--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
- Virginia--Court of Appeals--Disposed data include all **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.

C: The following courts' data are both incomplete and overinclusive:
- Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Filed data include noncase motions that could not be separated, but do not include original proceeding petitions.

TABLE 5: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted in State Appellate Courts, 1989

State/Court name:	Court type	Discretionary petitions: filed	filed granted	granted disposed	Granted as a percent of filed	Disposed as a percent of granted	Number of judges	Filed granted per judge
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court								
ALASKA								
Supreme Court	COLR	251	45	NA	18		5	9
Court of Appeals	IAC	62	NA	NA			3	
State Total		313						
ARIZONA								
Supreme Court	COLR	1,004 B	NA	99 B			5	
Court of Appeals	IAC	52	NA	NA			18	
State Total		1,056 *						
ARKANSAS								
Supreme Court	COLR	NA	NA	NA			7	
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			6	
State Total								
CALIFORNIA								
Supreme Court	COLR	4,214	187 A	NA			7	27
Courts of Appeal	IAC	6,966	677	NA	10		88	8
State Total		11,180	864 *					
COLORADO								
Supreme Court	COLR	993	NA	NA			7	
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			13	
State Total		993						
CONNECTICUT								
Supreme Court	COLR	204	38	NA	19		7	5
Appellate Court	IAC	105	47	NA	45		9	5
State Total		309	85		28			
FLORIDA								
Supreme Court	COLR	1,111	NA	NA			7	
District Courts of Appeal	IAC	2,259	NA	NA			46	
State Total		3,370						
GEORGIA								
Supreme Court	COLR	1,101	155 A	NA			7	22
Court of Appeals	IAC	809	NA	NA			9	
State Total		1,910						
HAWAII								
Supreme Court	COLR	42	13	NA	31		5	3
Intermediate Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			3	
State Total		42	13		31			

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TABLE 5: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions:						
State/Court name:	Court type	filed	filed granted	granted disposed	Granted as a percent of filed	Disposed as a percent of granted	Number of judges	Filed granted per judge
IDAHO								
Supreme Court	COLR	91	NA	NA			5	
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			3	
State Total		91						
ILLINOIS								
Supreme Court	COLR	1,558	136	118	9	87	7	19
Appellate Court	IAC	NA	NA	NA			43	
State Total								
INDIANA								
Supreme Court	COLR	565	NA	56			5	
Court of Appeals	IAC	81	57	52	70	91	13	4
State Total		646		108				
IOWA								
Supreme Court	COLR	NA	NA	71			9	
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			6	
State Total				71				
KANSAS								
Supreme Court	COLR	526	108	NA	21		7	15
Court of Appeals	IAC	NA	NA	NA			10	
State Total								
KENTUCKY								
Supreme Court	COLR	748 A	NA	NA			7	
Court of Appeals	IAC	89	NA	NA			14	
State Total		837 *						
LOUISIANA								
Supreme Court	COLR	2,776	623	458	22	74	7	89
Courts of Appeal	IAC	4,189	1,356	1,351	32	100	52	26
State Total		6,965	1,979	1,809	28	91	59	34
MARYLAND								
Court of Appeals	COLR	598	91	NA	15		7	13
Court of Special Appeals	IAC	230	12	NA	5		13	1
State Total		828	103		12			
MASSACHUSETTS								
Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	592	209	250 B	35		7	30
Appeals Court	IAC	959	NA	NA			14	
State Total		1,551						
MICHIGAN								
Supreme Court	COLR	2,805	68	NA	2		7	10
Court of Appeals	IAC	NA	NA	NA			18	
State Total								

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TABLE 5: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Discretionary petitions: filed	filed granted	granted disposed	Granted as a percent of filed	Disposed as a percent of granted	Number of judges	Filed granted per judge
MINNESOTA								
Supreme Court	COLR	711	130	120	18	92	7	19
Court of Appeals	IAC	295 A	88 A	85 A	30	97	13	7
State Total		1,006 *	218 *	205 *	22	94	20	11
MISSOURI								
Supreme Court	COLR	857	79	97	9	123	7	11
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			32	
State Total		857	79	97	9	123		
NEW JERSEY								
Supreme Court	COLR	1,482 A	162	NA			7	23
Appellate Div. Superior Court	IAC	NA	NA	NA			28	
State Total								
NEW MEXICO								
Supreme Court	COLR	366	27	NJ	7		5	5
Court of Appeals	IAC	44	15	NA	34		7	2
State Total		410	42		10			
NORTH CAROLINA								
Supreme Court	COLR	447	68	59	15	87	7	10
Court of Appeals	IAC	385	40	NA	10		12	3
State Total		832	108		13			
NORTH DAKOTA								
Supreme Court	COLR	0	1	2		200	5	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			3	
State Total		0	1	2		200		
OHIO								
Supreme Court	COLR	1,686	161	141	10	88	7	23
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			59	
State Total		1,686	161	141	10	88		
OREGON								
Supreme Court	COLR	709	101	NA	14		7	14
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			10	
State Total		709	101		14			
SOUTH CAROLINA								
Supreme Court	COLR	43 A	43	NA			5	9
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			6	
State Total		43 *	43					
UTAH								
Supreme Court	COLR	36	NA	NA			5	
Court of Appeals	IAC	NA	22	NA			7	3
State Total								

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TABLE 5: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Discretionary petitions: filed	filed granted	granted disposed	Granted as a percent of filed	Disposed as a percent of granted	Number of judges	Filed granted per judge
VIRGINIA								
Supreme Court	COLR	1,573	321	NA	20		7	46
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,523	267 A	NA			10	27
State Total		3,096	588 *					
WASHINGTON								
Supreme Court	COLR	821 A	NA	34			9	
Court of Appeals	IAC	318	NA	NA			16	
State Total		1,139 *						
WISCONSIN								
Supreme Court	COLR	896	90	187	10	208	7	13
Court of Appeals	IAC	191	NA	NA			13	
State Total		1,087						

States with no intermediate appellate court

State/Court name:	Court type	Discretionary petitions: filed	filed granted	granted disposed	Granted as a percent of filed	Disposed as a percent of granted	Number of judges	Filed granted per judge
DELAWARE								
Supreme Court	COLR	6 A	NA	NA			5	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA								
Court of Appeals	COLR	49	5	4	10	80	9	1
MAINE								
Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	NA	NA	NA			7	
MISSISSIPPI								
Supreme Court	COLR	43	6	0	14		9	1
MONTANA								
Supreme Court	COLR	6	NA	NA			7	
NEBRASKA								
Supreme Court	COLR	NA	NA	NA			7	
NEVADA								
Supreme Court	COLR	NJ	NJ	NJ			5	
NEW HAMPSHIRE								
Supreme Court	COLR	587	NA	NA			5	
RHODE ISLAND								
Supreme Court	COLR	179	NA	NA			5	
SOUTH DAKOTA								
Supreme Court	COLR	39 A	NA	NA			5	
VERMONT								
Supreme Court	COLR	34	NA	NA			5	

(continued on next page)

TABLE 5: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions:						
State/Court name:	Court type	filed	filed granted	granted disposed	Granted as a percent of filed	Disposed as a percent of granted	Number of judges	Filed granted per judge
WEST VIRGINIA								
Supreme Court of Appeals	COLR	1,644	593	702	36	118	5	119
WYOMING								
Supreme Court	COLR	NJ	NJ	NJ			5	
States with multiple appellate courts at any level								
ALABAMA								
Supreme Court	COLR	806	NA	NA			9	
Court of Civil Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			3	
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			5	
State Total		806						
NEW YORK								
Court of Appeals	COLR	4,411	NA	214			7	
Appellate Div. of the Sup. Ct.	IAC	NA	NA	NA			47	
Appellate Terms of the Sup. Ct.	IAC	NA	NA	NA			15	
State Total								
OKLAHOMA								
Supreme Court	COLR	443	NA	NA			9	
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	NA	85	85		100	3	28
Court of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			12	
State Total								
PENNSYLVANIA								
Supreme Court	COLR	2,227 C	230 C	NA	10		7	33
Superior Court	IAC	NA	NA	NA			9	
Commonwealth Court	IAC	29	NA	NA			15	
State Total								
TENNESSEE								
Supreme Court	COLR	820	64	NA	8		5	13
Court of Appeals	IAC	103	12	NA	12		12	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	67	25	NA	37		9	3
State Total		990	101		10			
TEXAS								
Supreme Court	COLR	1,126	76	98	7	129	9	8
Court of Criminal Appeal	COLR	1,792	246	456	14	185	9	27
Courts of Appeals	IAC	NJ	NJ	NJ			80	
State Total		2,918	322	554	11	172		

Table 5: **Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted in State Appellate Courts, 1989.** (continued)

COURT TYPE:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court

NOTE: NA indicates that the data are unavailable.
Blank spaces indicate that a calculation is inappropriate.

NJ = This case type is not handled in this court.
-- = Inapplicable

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court in the state. Each footnote has an effect on the state's total.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:
- California--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include **original proceedings** initially heard in the Supreme Court that were granted.
- Delaware--Supreme Court--**Discretionary petitions filed** data do not include some **discretionary interlocutory petitions** and some **discretionary advisory opinions.**
- Kentucky--Supreme Court--**Discretionary petitions filed** data do not include some discretionary unclassified petitions.
- Minnesota--Court of Appeals--Data do not include some petitions.
- New Jersey--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include **discretionary interlocutory petitions** granted.
- Virginia--Court of Appeals--Filed data do not include **original proceedings petitions** granted.
- Washington--Supreme Court--**Discretionary petitions** filed data do not include some cases reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Arizona--Supreme Court--Disposed data include **mandatory judge disciplinary** cases.
- Massachusetts--Supreme Judicial Court --Disposed data include all **mandatory jurisdiction** cases disposed.

C: The following court's data are incomplete and overinclusive:
- Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Filed data include motions that could not be separated, but do not include **original proceeding petitions** that were granted.

TABLE 6: Opinions Reported by State Appellate Courts, 1989

	Opinion count is by:		Composition of opinion count:					
State/Court name:	case	written document	signed opinions	per curiam opinions	memos/ orders	Total dispositions by signed opinion	Number of authorized justices/ judges	Number of lawyer support personnel
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court								
ALASKA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	O	89	5	11
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	O	144	3	8
ARIZONA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	132	5	16
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	some	307	18	48
ARKANSAS								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	X	345	7	15
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	O	629	6	16
CALIFORNIA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	120	7	50
Courts of Appeal	X	O	X	X	some	9,483	88	206
COLORADO								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	221	7	14
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	some	NA	13	26
CONNECTICUT								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	224	7	14
Appellate Court	X	O	X	X	some	463	9	14
FLORIDA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	171	7	15
District Courts of Appeal	X	O	X	X	O	4,793	46	102
GEORGIA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	384	7	17
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	O	1,364	9	28
HAWAII								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	396	5	14
Intermediate Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	X	134	3	6
IDAHO								
Supreme Court	O	X	X	X	X	NA	5	11
Court of Appeals	O	X	X	X	O	NA	3	6
ILLINOIS								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	NA	7	24
Appellate Court	X	O	X	X	some	2,084	43	88
INDIANA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	365	5	13
Court of Appeals	X	X	X	X	X	1,311	13	10

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TABLE 6: Opinions Reported by State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

	Opinion count is by:		Composition of opinion count:					
State/Court name:	case	written document	signed opinions	per curiam opinions	memos/ orders	Total dispositions by signed opinion	Number of authorized justices/ judges	Number of lawyer support personnel
IOWA								
Supreme Court	O	X	X	O	O	257	9	16
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	O	655	6	6
KANSAS								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	216	7	7
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	some	941	10	18
KENTUCKY								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	NA	7	11
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	some	NA	14	22
LOUISIANA								
Supreme Court	O	X	X	X	some	137	7	26
Courts of Appeal	O	X	X	X	X	3,061	52	103
MARYLAND								
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	O	132	7	14
Court of Special Appeals	X	O	X	O	O	243	13	29
MASSACHUSETTS								
Supreme Judicial Court	O	X	X	O	O	222	7	20
Appeals Court	O	X	X	X	X	173	14	27
MICHIGAN								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	68	7	15
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	some	4,976	18	84
MINNESOTA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	O	157	7	10
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	O	501	13	36
MISSOURI								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	107	7	15
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	some	1,596	32	135
NEW JERSEY								
Supreme Court	O	X	X	O	O	73	7	26
Appellate Div. Superior Court	X	O	X	X	X	3,611	28	60
NEW MEXICO								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	some	171	5	10
Court of Appeals	O	X	X	O	O	125	7	20
NORTH CAROLINA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	some	119	7	14
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	X	1,034	12	28

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TABLE 6: Opinions Reported by State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

	Opinion count is by:		Composition of opinion count:					
State/Court name:	case	written document	signed opinions	per curiam opinions	memos/ orders	Total dispositions by signed opinion	Number of authorized justices/ judges	Number of lawyer support personnel
NORTH DAKOTA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	278	5	10
Court of Appeals	X	O	O	O	O	NA	3	0
OHIO								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	X	NA	7	20
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	X	4,883	59	varies
OREGON								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	102	7	10
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	O	590	10	18
SOUTH CAROLINA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	457	5	19
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	O	337	6	11
UTAH								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	159	5	12
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	O	326	7	9
VIRGINIA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	215	7	23
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	O	327	10	22
WASHINGTON								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	147	9	23
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	some	1,248	16	32
WISCONSIN								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	107	7	10
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	O	O	1,264	13	25
States with no intermediate appellate court								
DELAWARE								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	O	65	5	5
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA								
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	O	306	9	25
MAINE								
Supreme Judicial Court	O	X	X	O	O	341	7	9
MISSISSIPPI								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	X	290	9	38
MONTANA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	O	356	7	14

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TABLE 6: Opinions Reported by State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

	Opinion count is by:		Composition of opinion count:					
State/Court name:	case	written document	signed opinions	per curiam opinions	memos/ orders	Total dispositions by signed opinion	Number of authorized justices/ judges	Number of lawyer support personnel
NEBRASKA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	X	520	7	14
NEVADA								
Supreme Court	O	X	X	X	O	164	5	20
NEW HAMPSHIRE								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	150	5	20
RHODE ISLAND								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	O	141	5	17
SOUTH DAKOTA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	199	5	8
VERMONT								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	O	221	5	8
WEST VIRGINIA								
Supreme Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	some	281	5	20
WYOMING								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	252	5	12
States with multiple appellate courts at any level								
ALABAMA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	751	9	18
Court of Civil Appeals	X	O	X	X	X	341	3	6
Court of Criminal Appeals	X	O	X	O	some	386	5	10
NEW YORK								
Court of Appeals	O	X	X	O	O	118	7	28
Appellate Div. of the Sup. Ct.	O	X	X	X	some	NA	47	25
Appellate Terms of the Sup. Ct.	O	X	X	X	some	NA	15	171
OKLAHOMA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	O	222	9	16
Court of Criminal Appeals	X	O	X	X	O	NA	3	6
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	X	1,337	12	12
PENNSYLVANIA								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	O	O	281	7	NA
Superior Court	X	O	X	X	X	4,394	9	NA
Commonwealth Court	O	X	X	X	X	1,586	15	39

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TABLE 6: Opinions Reported by State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

	Opinion count is by:		Composition of opinion count:					
State/Court name:	case	written document	signed opinions	per curiam opinions	memos/ orders	Total dispositions by signed opinion	Number of authorized justices/ judges	Number of lawyer support personnel
TENNESSEE								
Supreme Court	X	O	X	X	some	182	5	9
Court of Criminal Appeals	X	O	X	X	some	811	9	12
Court of Appeals	X	O	X	X	some	725	12	9
TEXAS								
Supreme Court	O	X	X	O	O	68	9	44
Court of Criminal Appeal	X	O	X	O	O	163	9	42
Courts of Appeals	X	O	X	O	O	5,324	80	217

CODES:

X - Court follows this method when counting opinions.
O - Court does not follow this method when counting opinions.
NA - Data are not available.

TABLE 7: Reported National Civil and Criminal Caseload for State Trial Courts, 1989

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
Civil cases:		
I. General jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete civil cases	3,589,990	2,865,717
Number of courts reporting complete civil data	30	26
B. Number of reported complete civil cases that include other case types	3,189,101	2,602,694
Number of courts reporting complete civil data that include other case types	20	17
C. Number of reported civil cases that are incomplete	1,331,890	1,764,305
Number of courts reporting civil cases that are incomplete	5	7
D. Number of reported civil cases that are incomplete and include noncivil case types	405,765	657,957
Number of courts reporting civil cases that are incomplete and include noncivil case types	4	6
II. Limited jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete civil cases	5,771,160	4,284,787
Number of courts reporting complete civil data	50	42
B. Number of reported complete civil cases that include other case types	174,264	215,444
Number of courts reporting complete civil data that include other case types	1	1
C. Number of reported civil cases that are incomplete	2,801,579	2,719,378
Number of courts reporting civil cases that are incomplete	21	25
D. Number of reported civil cases that are incomplete and include noncivil case types	57,376	56,358
Number of courts reporting civil cases that are incomplete and include noncivil case types	1	1
Criminal cases:		
I. General jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete criminal cases	897,774	902,849
Number of courts reporting complete criminal data	17	16
B. Number of reported complete criminal cases that include other case types	683,981	527,734
Number of courts reporting complete criminal data that include other case types	16	16
C. Number of reported criminal cases that are incomplete	1,198,726	874,335
Number of courts reporting criminal cases that are incomplete	16	16
D. Number of reported criminal cases that are incomplete and include noncriminal case types	800,412	720,042
Number of courts reporting criminal cases that are incomplete and include noncriminal case types	4	3
II. Limited jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete criminal cases	1,874,731	1,314,420
Number of courts reporting complete criminal data	10	9
B. Number of reported complete criminal cases that include other case types	1,463,992	1,344,632
Number of courts reporting complete criminal data that include other case types	9	9
C. Number of reported criminal cases that are incomplete	2,648,795	2,445,529
Number of courts reporting criminal cases that are incomplete	20	15
D. Number of reported criminal cases that are incomplete and include noncriminal case types	2,964,796	2,608,114
Number of courts reporting criminal cases that are incomplete and include noncriminal case types	22	22

(continued on next page)

TABLE 7: Reported National Civil and Criminal Caseload for State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

Summary section for all trial courts:

	Reported filings					
	General Jurisdiction		Limited Jurisdiction		Total (incomplete)	
	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal
1. Total number of reported complete cases	3,589,990	897,774	5,771,160	1,874,731	9,361,150	2,772,505
2. Total number of reported complete cases that include other case types	3,189,101	683,981	174,264	1,463,992	3,363,365	2,147,973
3. Total number of reported cases that are incomplete	1,331,890	1,198,726	2,801,579	2,648,795	4,133,469	3,847,521
4. Total number of reported cases that are incomplete and include other case types	405,765	800,412	57,376	2,964,796	463,141	3,765,208
Total (incomplete)	8,516,746	3,580,893	8,804,379	8,952,314	17,321,125	12,533,207

TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1989

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualify-ing footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
ALABAMA								
Circuit	G	2	G	6	152,075 B	141,338 B	93	3,692
District	L	1	B	1	587,073 B	589,288 B	100	14,253
Municipal	L	1	M	1	720,108 A	509,592 A	71	17,483
Probate	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
ALASKA								
Superior	G	1	B	6	19,031 C	17,580 C	92	3,611
District	L	3	B	5	114,597	112,760	98	21,745
State Total					133,628 *	130,340 *	98	25,356
ARIZONA								
Superior	G	2	D	6	139,637	140,529	101	3,926
Tax	G	2	I	1	836	149	18	24
Justice of the Peace	L	1	Z	1	622,945 A	596,565 A	96	17,513
Municipal	L	1	Z	1	1,087,473	1,094,052	101	30,573
State Total					1,850,891 *	1,831,295 *	99	52,035
ARKANSAS								
Chancery and Probate	G	2	I	3	64,882	68,089	105	2,696
Circuit	G	1	A	1	56,605	67,668 B		2,352
City	L	1	A	1	21,230	11,639	55	882
County	L	2	I	1	4,814 A	2,880 A	60	200
Court of Common Pleas	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
Justice of the Peace	L	2	A	1	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1	A	1	562,477 A	352,981 A	63	23,368
Police	L	1	A	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
CALIFORNIA								
Superior	G	2	B	6	900,066 A	809,750 A	90	3,097
Justice	L	3	B	1	575,462 C	473,507 C	82	1,980
Municipal	L	3	B	1	16,147,567 B	13,753,293 B	85	55,559
State Total					17,623,095 *	15,036,550 *	85	60,635
COLORADO								
District, Denver Juvenile, Denver Probate	G	2	D	3	142,102 B	139,642 B	98	4,285
Water	G	2	I	1	1,271	2,316	182	38
County	L	2	D	1	404,197 A	361,609 A	89	12,189
Municipal	L	1	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
CONNECTICUT								
Superior	G	6	E	5**	597,473 B	550,797 C		18,446
Probate	L	2	I	1	55,841	NA		1,724
State Total					653,314 *			20,170

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualify-ing footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
DELAWARE								
Court of Chancery	G	2	I	1	3,843	3,378	88	572
Superior	G	2	B	1	10,587 B	9,893 B	93	1,575
Alderman's	L	4	A	1	24,029 A	23,615 A	98	3,576
Court of Common Pleas	L	2	A	1	37,860 A	36,128 A	95	5,634
Family	L	2	B	3**	38,862 A	35,723 A	92	5,783
Justice of the Peace	L	2	A	1	237,020	237,060	100	35,271
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	5	A	1	34,606 A	34,827 A	101	5,150
State Total					386,807 *	380,624 *	98	57,561
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA								
Superior	G	6	B	6**	211,559 A	215,772 A	102	35,026
FLORIDA								
Circuit	G	2	E	4	823,964	676,383 A		6,503
County	L	5	A	1	4,233,137	3,406,139	80	33,408
State Total					5,057,101	4,082,522 *		39,911
GEORGIA								
Superior	G	2	G	3	255,159	244,270	96	3,965
Civil	L	2	M	1	NA	NA		
County Recorder's	L	1	M	1	NA	NA		
Juvenile	L	2	I	1	76,480	59,434	78	1,188
Magistrate's	L	2	B	1	332,247 A	285,231 A	86	5,162
Municipal	L	2	M	1	NA	NA		
Municipal and City of Atlanta	L	1	M	1	NA	NA		
Probate	L	2	B	1	100,721 A	73,535 A	73	1,565
State	L	2	G	1	373,886 A	335,952 A	90	5,809
State Total								
HAWAII								
Circuit	G	2	G	6	51,057 B	47,833 B	94	4,591
District	L	4	A	1	939,069	890,541	95	84,449
State Total					990,126 *	938,374 *	95	89,040
IDAHO								
District	G	3	D	6**	371,795 C	364,410 C	98	36,666
ILLINOIS								
Circuit	G	4	G	6**	9,102,072 B	5,228,766 B	57	78,076
INDIANA								
Superior and Circuit	G	3	B	5	696,743 A	657,509 A	94	12,457
City and Town	L	3	B	1	229,160	204,897	89	4,097
County	L	4	B	1	173,321	167,213	96	3,099
Probate	L	2	I	1	2,793	2,272	81	50
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	3	B	1	145,184 A	145,143 A	100	2,596
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	2	I	1	65,841	63,674	97	1,177
State Total					1,313,042 *	1,240,708 *	94	23,477

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualify-ing footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
IOWA								
District	G	3	B	6	979,291 B	963,213 C		34,506
KANSAS								
District	G	4	B	6**	447,790	446,842	100	17,819
Municipal	G	1	B	1	170,639 A	162,540 A	95	6,790
State Total					618,429 *	609,382 *	99	24,609
KENTUCKY								
Circuit	G	2	B	6	74,875 B	68,869 B	92	2,009
District	L	3	B	1	599,061 C	562,516 C	94	16,074
State Total					673,936 *	631,385 *	94	18,083
LOUISIANA								
District	G	1	Z	6	507,647 B	NA		11,582
Family and Juvenile	G	2	I	4***	30,744	NA		701
City and Parish	L	1	B	1	676,327	554,445	82	15,431
Justice of the Peace	L	1	I	1	NA	NA		
Mayor's	L	1	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
MAINE								
Superior	G	2	E	6	19,046 B	18,330 B	96	1,559
Administrative	L	2	I	1	357	350	98	29
District	L	4	E	5	325,560 B	310,269 B	95	26,642
Probate	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
MARYLAND								
Circuit	G	2	B	6**	210,787 B	179,807 B	85	4,491
District	L	1	B	1	2,007,605 A	1,174,676 A	59	42,770
Orphan's	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
MASSACHUSETTS								
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G	1	D	5**	1,937,231 A	1,772,147 A	91	32,768
MICHIGAN								
Circuit	G	2	B	6**	244,669	248,517	102	2,638
Court of Claims	G	2	I	1	660	590	89	7
District	L	4	B	1	3,127,056	3,018,418	97	33,719
Municipal	L	4	B	1	49,409	45,695	92	533
Probate	L	2	I	1	130,621 A	66,355 A	51	1,408
State Total					3,552,415 *	3,379,575 *		38,305
MINNESOTA								
District	G	4	B	6	1,959,000	1,938,347	99	45,014

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TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualify-ing footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
MISSOURI								
Circuit	G	1	H	6**	843,574 C	805,824 C	96	16,348
Municipal	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
MONTANA								
District	G	2	G	3	27,220	24,630	90	3,381
Water	G	2	I	1	NA	NA		
Workers' Compensation	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
City	L	1	B	1	NA	NA		
Justice of the Peace	L	1	B	1	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1	B	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
NEBRASKA								
District	G	2	B	5	52,737 B	52,239 B	99	3,274
County	L	1	B	1	424,635 A	428,918 A	101	26,358
Separate Juvenile	L	2	I	1	2,738	NA		170
Worker's Compensation	L	2	I	1	414	458	111	26
State Total					480,524 *			29,828
NEVADA								
District	G	2	Z	2	41,857 A	NA		3,774
Justice	L	1	Z	1	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1	Z	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
NEW HAMPSHIRE								
Superior	G	2	A	5	31,974	30,176	94	2,891
District	L	4	A	1	377,753 A	1,063 A	0	34,155
Municipal	L	4	A	1	5,201 A	NA		470
Probate	L	2	I	1	17,554	NA		1,587
State Total					432,482 *			39,103
NEW JERSEY								
Superior	G	2	B	6**	967,740	928,405	96	12,510
Municipal	L	4	B	1	6,403,500	6,381,372	100	82,775
Surrogates	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
Tax	L	2	I	1	4,231	2,285	54	55
State Total								
NEW MEXICO								
District	G	2	E	6	71,835 B	71,920 B	100	4,701
Magistrate	L	3	E	1	119,439 B	95,888 B	80	7,817
Municipal	L	1	I	1	NA	NA		
Probate	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
Metropolitan Ct. of Bernalillo County	L	3	E	1	303,432 A	239,617 A	79	19,858
State Total								

(continued on next page)

TABLE 6: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualify-ing footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
NEW YORK								
Supreme and County	G	2	E	1	286,753 C	277,794 C	97	1,598
Court of Claims	L	2	I	1	1,979	1,963	99	11
District and City	L	4	E	1	1,898,378 A	1,852,073 A	98	10,576
Family	L	2	I	4	516,295	499,258	97	2,876
Surrogates'	L	2	I	1	107,567	3,915 A		599
Town and Village Justice	L	1	E	1	NA	NA		
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	2	I	1	240,485 A	256,171 A	107	1,340
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	2	E	1	357,689 A	353,554 A	99	1,993
State Total								
NORTH CAROLINA								
Superior	G	2	E	1	211,585	197,090	93	3,220
District	L	6	E	6**	2,116,923 A	2,049,580 A	97	32,221
State Total					2,328,508 *	2,246,670 *	96	35,442
NORTH DAKOTA								
District	G	4	B	6**	28,591 B	28,640 B	100	4,325
County	L	1	E	1	90,385 A	89,960 A	100	13,674
Municipal	L	1	B	1	NA	49,342 A		
State Total						167,942 *		
OHIO								
Court of Common Pleas	G	2	B	6**	673,638 B	671,674 B	100	6,176
County	L	5	B	1	292,527	297,257	102	2,682
Court of Claims	L	2	I	1	5,659	6,072	107	52
Mayor's	L	1	B	1	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	5	B	1	2,362,869	2,351,439	100	21,662
State Total								
OKLAHOMA								
District	G	2	J	6	457,761 A	458,594 A	100	14,203
Court of Tax Review	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
Municipal Court Not of Record	L	1	I	1	NA	NA		
Municipal Criminal Court of Record	L	1	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
OREGON								
Circuit	G	2	E	6**	132,022 B	113,564 C		4,682
Tax	G	2	I	1	202	205	101	7
County	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
District	L	1	E	1	494,547 A	448,539 A	91	17,537
Justice	L	3	E	1	107,805 C	110,724 C	103	3,823
Municipal	L	3	A	1	237,740	215,105	90	8,430
State Total								

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualify-ing footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
PENNSYLVANIA								
Court of Common Pleas	G	2	B	4	479,363 A	452,127 A	94	3,982
District Justice Court	L	4	B	1	2,185,686	1,972,760	90	18,155
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	2	B	1	192,598 B	191,569 B	99	1,600
Philadelphia Traffic Court	L	1	I	1	NA	NA		
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	4	B	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
PUERTO RICO								
Superior	G	2	J	6	108,418 C	99,518 C	92	3,294
District	L	2	J	1	185,202 B	178,210 B	96	5,628
Justices of the Peace	L	2	I	1	NJ	NJ		
Municipal	L	1	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
RHODE ISLAND								
Superior	G	2	D	1	17,728 B	17,586 B	99	1,780
District	L	2	D	1	82,252 A	73,317 A	89	8,258
Family	L	2	I	6	15,957 A	11,341 A	71	1,602
Municipal	L	1	I	1	NA	NA		
Probate	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
SOUTH CAROLINA								
Circuit	G	2	B	1	149,287 B	123,504 B	83	4,251
Family	L	2	I	6**	77,205	75,601	98	2,198
Magistrate	L	4	B	1	775,000 A	772,576 A	100	22,067
Municipal	L	4	B	1	394,916 A	392,229 A	99	11,245
Probate	L	2	I	1	21,824	19,465	89	621
State Total					1,418,232 *	1,383,375 *	98	40,382
SOUTH DAKOTA								
Circuit	G	3	B	4	221,421	205,776 A		30,925
TENNESSEE								
Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery	G	2	Z	6**	175,131 C	153,902 C	88	3,546
General Sessions	L	1	M	6**	NA	NA		
Juvenile	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1	M	1	NA	NA		
Probate	L	2	I	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
TEXAS								
District	G	2	B	6**	617,925 B	618,665 B	100	3,637
County-Level	L	2	B	6**	611,278	656,825	107	3,598
Justice of the Peace	L	4	A	1	2,537,116 A	2,191,049 A	86	14,932
Municipal	L	4	A	1	5,908,167 A	4,590,849 A	78	34,772
State Total					9,674,486 *	8,057,388 *	83	56,939

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualify-ing footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
UTAH								
District	G	2	J	3	32,449 B	29,261 B	90	1,901
Circuit	L	4	B	1	325,016 B	303,514 C		19,040
Justice	L	4	B	1	303,307 A	289,698 A	96	17,768
Juvenile	L	2	I	1	42,166	41,972	100	2,470
State Total					702,938 *	664,445 *		41,180
VERMONT								
District	G	2	D	4***	147,474	146,310	99	26,055
Superior	G	2	B	5	11,454	10,603	93	2,024
Probate	L	2	I	1	4,926	4,347	88	870
State Total					163,854	161,260	98	28,949
VIRGINIA								
Circuit	G	2	A	3	189,120	178,473	94	3,102
District	L	4	A	4	3,166,413	3,219,531	102	51,934
State Total					3,355,533	3,398,004	101	55,036
WASHINGTON								
Superior	G	2	G	6	195,130 B	177,156 B	91	4,099
District	L	4	C	1	844,213 A	816,782 A	97	17,736
Municipal	L	4	C	1	1,224,313	925,042	76	25,721
State Total					2,263,656 *	1,918,980 *	85	47,556
WEST VIRGINIA								
Circuit	G	2	J	5	57,792 B	55,321 B	96	3,112
Magistrate	L	2	J	1	293,229 A	275,319 A	94	15,790
Municipal	L	1	A	1	NA	NA		
State Total								
WISCONSIN								
Circuit	G	3	D	6**	989,509 A	979,536 A	99	20,331
Municipal	L	3	A	1	NA	358,350 A		
State Total						1,337,886 *		
WYOMING								
District	G	2	J	5	10,660 B	10,057 B	94	2,249
County	L	1	J	4	107,923 A	110,570 A	102	22,769
Justice of the Peace	L	1	J	1	28,342 A	27,472 A	97	5,979
Municipal	L	1	A	1	52,262	52,747	101	11,026
State Total					199,187 *	200,846 *	101	42,023

TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1989. (continued)

NOTE: The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table, as neither grand total caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1989. All other state trial courts with grand total jurisdiction are listed in the table, regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

NA = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

SUPPORT/CUSTODY CODES:

(a) Method of count codes:

1 = The court does not have jurisdiction over support/custody cases
2 = Support/custody caseload data are not available
3 = Only contested support/custody cases and all URESA cases (where the court has jurisdiction) are counted separately from marriage dissolution cases
4 = Both contested and uncontested support/custody cases and URESA cases (where the court has jurisdiction) are counted separately from marriage dissolution cases
5 = Support/custody is counted as a proceeding of the marriage dissolution and, thus, a marriage dissolution that involves support/custody is counted as one case
6 = Support/custody is counted as a proceeding of the marriage dissolution, but URESA cases are counted separately
** = Nondissolution support/custody cases are also counted separately
*** = Court has only URESA jurisdiction

(b) Decree change counted as:

NC = Not counted/collected
NF = New filing
R = Reopened case

PARKING CODES:

1 = Parking data are unavailable
2 = Court does not have parking jurisdiction
3 = Only contested parking cases are included
4 = Both contested and uncontested parking cases are included
5 = Parking cases are handled administratively
6 = Uncontested parking cases are handled administratively; contested parking cases are handled by the court

CRIMINAL UNIT OF COUNT CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = Single defendant--single charge
B = Single defendant--single incident (one/more charges)
C = Single defendant--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
D = Single defendant--one/more incidents
E = Single defendant--content varies with prosecutor
F = One/more defendants--single charge
G = One/more defendants--single incident (one/more charges)
H = One/more defendants--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
J = One/more defendants--one/more incidents
K = One/more defendants--content varies with prosecutor
L = Inconsistent during reporting year
Z = Both the defendant and charge components vary within the state

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:
The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an effect on the state's total.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:

Alabama--Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not incude cases that were unavailable from a few municipalities.

Arizona--Justice of the Peace Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

Arkansas--County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **real property rights**, **miscellaneous domestic relations**, and **miscellaneous civil** cases.
--Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases and data from several municipalities that did not report.

California--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include cases from several courts that did not report.
--Justice Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers, but do not include partial year data from several courts.

Delaware--Court of Common Pleas--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include most **felony** cases.
--Alderman's Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include cases from one court that did not report.
--Family Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **status petition** and **child-victim petition cases.**
--Municipal Court of Wilmington--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

District of Columbia--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include most **child-victim petition** cases.

Florida--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data do not include **criminal appeals** cases.

Georgia--Magistrate Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **criminal** cases and data from 16 counties that did not report.
--Probate Court--Grand total filed data include **civil** cases from 97 of 159 counties, **criminal** cases from 51 counties, and are less than 75% complete. Disposed data do not include any **civil** cases, **criminal** and **traffic** data from 108 counties, and are less than 75% complete.
--State Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include data from 22 of 62 courts, and are less than 75% complete.

Indiana--Superior and Circuit Courts--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **civil appeals** and **criminal appeals** cases.
--Municipal Court of Marion County--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **appeals of trial court** cases.

Kansas--Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **parking** cases, and represent a reporting rate of less than 75%.

Maryland--District Court–Grand total filed data do not include **parking cases**. Disposed data do not include **civil, ordinance violation,** and **parking** cases, and are less than 75% complete.

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth–Grand total filed data do not include **parking** cases. Disposed data do not include **civil** cases from the Housing Court Department, some **miscellaneous domestic relations** cases from the Probate/Family Court Department, miscellaneous civil cases from the Probate/Family Court Department, **criminal** cases from the Boston Municipal Court, Housing Court and Juvenile Court Departments, DWI/DUI and criminal **appeals** cases from the District Court Department, **moving traffic violation** cases from the Boston Municipal Court Department, **parking, ordinance violation,** and **miscellaneous traffic** cases; and **juvenile** data from the Juvenile Court Department, and are less than 75% complete.

Michigan–Probate Court--Grand total filed data do not include **status petitions**. Disposed data do not include **paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, miscellaneous civil,** and **status petition** cases, and are less than 75% complete.

Nebraska--County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** and **parking** cases.

Nevada–District Court--Grand total filed data do not include **felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal,** and all **juvenile** cases, and are less than 75% complete.

New Hampshire–District Court--Grand total filed data do not include **limited felony** cases. Disposed data do not include criminal, traffic, and **juvenile** cases, are missing all civil case types except **mental health**, and are less than 75% complete.
–Municipal Court–Grand total filed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

New Mexico–Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

New York--District and City Courts–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **administrative agency appeals** cases.
–Civil Court of the City of New York–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **administrative agency appeals** cases.
–Criminal Court of the City of New York--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include limited **felony, moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic**, and some **ordinance violation** cases.
--Surrogates' Court--Grand total disposed data do not include **estate** cases and are less than 75% complete.

North Carolina--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

North Dakota–County Court–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.
–Municipal Court–Grand total disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** and **parking** cases, and are less than 75% complete.

Oklahoma--District Court–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include any **juvenile** cases.

Oregon--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **felony** and **parking** cases.

Pennsylvania–Court of Common Pleas–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include some **civil** cases and **postconviction criminal appeals**.
–Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court–Grand total filed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

Rhode Island–District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **administrative agency appeals, mental health,** and **limited felony** cases.
--Family Court--Grand total filed data do not include **paternity/bastardy** cases. Disposed data do not include most **marriage dissolution** cases and all **paternity/bastardy** cases and are less than 75% complete.

South Carolina--Magistrate Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** and **ordinance violation** cases.
–Municipal Court–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

South Dakota--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data do not include **adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate, mental health, administrative agency appeals,** and **juvenile** data.

Texas–Justice of the Peace Court–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases and represent a reporting rate of 81%.
–Municipal Court–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases and represent a reporting rate of 81%.

Utah–Justice Court–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

Washington–District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

West Virginia--Magistrate Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

Wisconsin--Circuit Court–Grand total filed and disposed data do not include contested first-offense **DWI/DUI** cases handled by Municipal Courts.
--Municipal Court–Grand total disposed data do not include data from several municipalities.

Wyoming--County Court–Grand total filed data do not include **limited felony** cases. Disposed data do not include **appeals of trial court cases, felony,** and **criminal appeals** cases.
–Justice of the Peace Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases, any data from one county, and partial data from another county.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

Alabama--Circuit Court–Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
–District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing proceedings.**

Arkansas--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data include **postconviction remedy** and probation revocation proceedings.

California–Municipal Court–Grand total filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing** bindovers and transfers.

Colorado–District, Denver Juvenile, and Denver Probate Courts--Grand total filed and disposed data include extraditions, revocations, parole, and release from commitment hearings.

Connecticut–Superior Court--Grand total filed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Delaware–Superior Court–Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Hawaii–Circuit Court–Grand total filed and disposed data include **criminal postconviction remedy proceedings**.

Illinois–Circuit Court–Grand total filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing proceedings.**

Iowa–District Court--Grand total filed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Kentucky–Circuit Court–Grand total filed and disposed data include **sentence review only** and **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Louisiana–District Court–Grand total filed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Maine–Superior Court–Grand total filed and disposed

Table 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1989. (continued)

data include **postconviction remedy** and **sentence review only proceedings**.
--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing proceedings**.
Maryland--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **estate** cases from all but two jurisdictions of the Orphan's Court, and some **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
Nebraska--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
New Mexico--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
--Magistrate Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing proceedings**.
North Dakota--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **sentence review only** and **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
Oregon--Circuit Court--Grand total filed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing proceedings**.
Puerto Rico--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases.
Rhode Island--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
South Carolina--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
Texas--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include some other proceedings (e.g., motions to revoke, etc.).
Utah--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy** and **sentence review only proceedings**.
--Circuit Court--Grand total filed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
Washington--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.
West Virginia--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings** and extraordinary writs.
Wyoming--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**.

C: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:

Alaska--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include extraordinary writs, orders to show cause, unfair trade practices, and **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include **criminal appeals** cases.
Colorado--County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include some preliminary hearing proceedings, but do not include cases from Denver County Court.
Connecticut--Superior Court--Grand total disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include most **small claims** cases.
Idaho--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy** and **sentence review only proceedings**, but do not include **mental health** cases.
Iowa--District Court--Grand total disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include **juvenile** cases and a few **domestic relations** cases.
Kentucky--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **sentence review only proceedings**, but do not include **limited felony** cases.
Missouri--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include extraordinary writs, but do not include **parking** and those **ordinance violation** cases heard by municipal judges.
New York--Supreme and County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include **civil appeals** and **criminal appeals** cases.
Oregon--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include **juvenile** cases.
--Justice of the Peace Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing proceedings, but do not include data from several courts.
Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include **URESA** cases.
Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Courts--Grand total filed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include **traffic/other violation** cases. Disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include **DWI/DUI** and **traffic/other violation** cases.
Utah--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1989

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Support/custody: (a) method of count code	Support/custody: (b) decree change counted as	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
ALABAMA							
Circuit	G	6	NF	83,958 C	80,705 C	96	2,038
District	L	1		161,903	164,122	101	3,931
Probate	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
ALASKA							
Superior	G	6	R	14,246 B	13,685 B	96	2,703
District	L	5		19,630	19,895	101	3,725
State Total				33,876 *	33,580 *	99	6,428
ARIZONA							
Superior	G	6	R	100,445	103,535	103	2,824
Justice of the Peace	L	1		129,980	124,921	96	3,654
Municipal	L	1		9,869	9,849	100	277
Tax	G	1		836	149	18	24
State Total				241,130	238,454	99	6,779
ARKANSAS							
Chancery and Probate	G	3	R	51,934	56,161	108	2,158
Circuit	G	1		24,999	27,158	109	1,039
City	L	1		75	88	117	3
Justice of the Peace	L	1		NA	NA		
County	L	1		4,814 A	2,880 A	60	200
Court of Common Pleas	L	1		NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1		53,650 A	24,210 A	45	2,229
Police	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
CALIFORNIA							
Superior	G	6	NC	672,630 A	599,432 A	89	2,314
Justice	L	1		34,824 A	25,692 A	74	120
Municipal	L	1		1,100,742	822,028	75	3,787
State Total				1,808,196 *	1,447,152 *	80	6,221
COLORADO							
District, Denver Juvenile, Denver Probate	G	3	R	105,765	105,880	100	3,190
Water	G	1		1,271	2,316	182	38
County	L	1		115,051 A	112,946 A	98	3,470
State Total				222,087 *	221,142 *	100	6,697
CONNECTICUT							
Superior	G	5**	NC	154,640 B	90,060 C		4,774
Probate	L	1		55,841	NA		1,724
State Total				210,481 *			6,498

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TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Support/custody: (a) method of count code	Support/custody: (b) decree change counted as	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
DELAWARE							
Court of Chancery	G	1		3,843	3,378	88	572
Superior	G	1		5,322	4,882	92	792
Alderman's	L	1		0 A	0 A		
Court of Common Pleas	L	1		4,816	4,628	96	717
Family	L	3**	R	26,223	24,778	94	3,902
Justice of the Peace	L	1		27,176	28,240	104	4,044
State Total				67,380 *	65,906 *	98	10,027
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Superior	G	6**	R	145,952	150,885	103	24,164
FLORIDA							
Circuit	G	4	R	515,830	425,545	82	4,071
County	L	1		357,820	339,986	95	2,824
State Total				873,650	765,531	88	6,895
GEORGIA							
Superior	G	3	NF	167,730	162,429	97	2,606
Civil	L	1		NA	NA		
Magistrate's	L	1		273,056 A	239,781 A	88	4,243
Municipal	L	1		NA	NA		
Probate	L	1		23,140 A	NA		360
State	L	1		158,955 A	135,035 A	85	2,470
State Total							
HAWAII							
Circuit	G	6	R	27,523 B	27,395 B	100	2,475
District	L	1		26,185	24,179	92	2,355
State Total				53,708 *	51,574 *	96	4,830
IDAHO							
District	G	6**	NF	61,525	61,100	99	6,068
ILLINOIS							
Circuit	G	6**	R	615,059 B	596,534 B	97	5,276
INDIANA							
Superior and Circuit	G	5	R	281,441 A	275,315 A	98	5,032
City and Town	L	1		9,345	9,699	104	167
County	L	1		49,979	46,931	94	894
Probate	L	1		1,983 A	1,583 A	80	35
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	1		10,773 A	11,702 A	109	193
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	1		65,841	63,674	97	1,177
State Total				419,362 *	408,904 *	98	7,498
IOWA							
District	G	6	NF	176,321 B	176,546 C		6,213

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TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1989. (continued)

		Support/custody:					
State/Court name:	Juris-diction	(a) method of count code	(b) decree change counted as	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a per-centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
KANSAS							
District	G	6**	NC	148,525	148,126	100	5,910
KENTUCKY							
Circuit	G	6	R	60,195	56,139	93	1,615
District	L	1		139,423 A	126,551 A	91	3,741
State Total				199,618 *	182,690 *	92	5,356
LOUISIANA							
District	G	6	R	174,932 B	NA		3,991
Family and Juvenile	G	4***	R	9,195	NA		210
City and Parish	L	1		66,818	48,990	73	1,524
Justice of the Peace	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
MAINE							
Superior	G	6	NC	6,858	6,540	95	561
Administrative	L	1		357	350	98	29
District	L	5	NC	62,935	56,119	89	5,150
Probate	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
MARYLAND							
Circuit	G	6**	NF	116,085 B	94,986 B	82	2,473
District	L	1		713,639	6,081 A		15,203
Orphan's	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
MASSACHUSETTS							
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G	5**	R	514,025	499,095 A		8,695
MICHIGAN							
Circuit	G	6**	NC	183,897	189,332	103	1,983
Court of Claims	G	1		660	590	89	7
District	L	1		400,571	399,583	100	4,319
Municipal	L	1		790	902	114	9
Probate	L	1		101,868	41,434 A		1,098
State Total				687,786	631,841 *		7,416
MINNESOTA							
District	G	6	NF	208,062	197,900	95	4,781
MISSOURI							
Circuit	G	6**	NF	264,464 B	246,437 B	93	5,125

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TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Support/custody: (a) method of count code	Support/custody: (b) decree change counted as	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
MONTANA							
District	G	3	R	22,197 A	19,065 A	86	2,757
City	L	1		NA	NA		
Justice of the Peace	L	1		NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
NEBRASKA							
District	G	5	R	46,360 C	45,849 C	99	2,878
County	L	1		53,105	51,022	96	3,296
Worker's Compensation	L	1		414	458	111	26
State Total				99,879 *	97,329 *	97	6,200
NEVADA							
District	G	2	R	41,849	NA		3,774
Justice	L	1		NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Superior	G	5	R	22,858	21,316	93	2,067
District	L	1		57,351	1,063 A		5,185
Municipal	L	1		418	NA		38
Probate	L	1		17,554	NA		1,587
State Total				98,181			8,877
NEW JERSEY							
Superior	G	6**	R	782,227	753,181	96	10,112
Surrogates	L	1		NA	NA		
Tax	L	1		4,231	2,285	54	55
State Total							
NEW MEXICO							
District	G	6	R	51,953 B	52,638 B	101	3,400
Magistrate	L	1		10,221	9,801	96	669
Probate	L	1		NA	NA		
Metropolitan Ct. of Bernalillo County	L	1		9,615	10,346	108	629
State Total							
NEW YORK							
Supreme and County	G	1		207,728 C	202,554 C	98	1,157
Court of Claims	L	1		1,979	1,963	99	11
District and City	L	1		244,259 A	219,781 A	90	1,361
Family	L	4	R	450,283	431,621	96	2,509
Surrogates'	L	1		107,567	3,915 A		599
Town and Village Justice	L	1		NA	NA		
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	1		240,485 A	256,171 A	107	1,340
State Total							

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Support/custody: (a) method of count code	Support/custody: (b) decree change counted as	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a per-centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
NORTH CAROLINA							
Superior	G	1		110,998	102,465	92	1,689
District	L	6**	R	438,740	425,293	97	6,678
State Total				549,738	527,758	96	8,367
NORTH DAKOTA							
District	G	6**	R	17,253	16,965	98	2,610
County	L	1		15,590	14,424	93	2,359
State Total				32,843	31,389	96	4,969
OHIO							
Court of Common Pleas	G	6**	NF	361,187 B	359,583 B	100	3,311
County	L	1		26,224	26,969	103	240
Court of Claims	L	1		5,659	6,072	107	52
Municipal	L	1		370,608	377,063	102	3,398
State Total				763,678 *	769,687 *	101	7,001
OKLAHOMA							
District	G	6	NF	193,254	210,096	109	5,996
Court of Tax Review	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
OREGON							
Circuit	G	6**	R	85,515 B	87,110 B	102	3,032
Tax	G	1		202	205	101	7
County	L	1		NA	NA		
District	L	1		80,933	82,310	102	2,870
Justice	L	1		6,104 A	5,928 A	97	216
State Total							
PENNSYLVANIA							
Court of Common Pleas	G	4	NF	294,097 A	275,562 A	94	2,443
District Justice Court	L	1		233,044	224,396	96	1,936
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	1		122,823 A	121,653 A	99	1,020
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
PUERTO RICO							
Superior	G	6	R	67,719 C	62,243 C	92	2,058
District	L	1		57,376 C	56,358 C	98	1,743
State Total				125,095 *	118,601 *	95	3,801
RHODE ISLAND							
Superior	G	1		10,121 B	10,002 B	99	1,016
District	L	1		39,071 A	32,025 A	82	3,923
Family	L	6	R	8,232 A	4,304 A	52	827
Probate	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							

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TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Support/custody: (a) method of count code	Support/custody: (b) decree change counted as	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a per-centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Circuit	G	1		53,953 B	54,399 B	101	1,536
Family	L	6**	NF	61,489	60,203	98	1,751
Magistrate	L	1		130,975	130,796	100	3,729
Probate	L	1		21,824	19,465	89	621
State Total				268,241 *	264,863 *	99	7,638
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Circuit	G	4	NC	40,091	34,736 A		5,599
TENNESSEE							
Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery	G	6**	R	117,384 B	105,862 B	90	2,377
General Sessions	L	6**	R	NA	NA		
Juvenile	L	1		NA	NA		
Probate	L	1		NA	NA		
State Total							
TEXAS							
District	G	6**	NF	445,936 B	453,652 B	102	2,625
County-Level	L	6**	NF	174,264 B	215,444 B	124	1,026
Justice of the Peace	L	1		256,889 A	248,074 A	97	1,512
Municipal	L	1		549 A	549 A	100	3
State Total				877,638 *	917,719 *	105	5,165
UTAH							
District	G	3	R	28,234 B	24,040 B	85	1,654
Circuit	L	1		97,902	84,816	87	5,735
Justice	L	1		2,891	2,642	91	169
State Total				129,027 *	111,498 *	86	7,559
VERMONT							
District	G	4***	NC	19,469	19,669	101	3,440
Superior	G	5	NC	11,316	10,501	93	1,999
Probate	L	1		4,926	4,347	88	870
State Total				35,711	34,517	97	6,309
VIRGINIA							
Circuit	G	3	R	95,129	90,376	95	1,560
District	L	4	R	1,063,856 A	1,076,952 A	101	17,449
State Total				1,158,985 *	1,167,328 *	101	19,009
WASHINGTON							
Superior	G	6	R	140,703 B	127,864 B	91	2,956
District	L	1		108,102	82,771	77	2,271
Municipal	L	1		1,837	1,096	60	39
State Total				250,642 *	211,731 *	84	5,266

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Support/custody: (a) method of count code	Support/custody: (b) decree change counted as	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
WEST VIRGINIA							
Circuit	G	5	R	44,349 B	40,944 B	92	2,388
Magistrate	L	1		46,410	45,666	98	2,499
State Total				90,759 *	86,610 *	95	4,887
WISCONSIN							
Circuit	G	6**	R	298,589 B	299,090 B	100	6,135
WYOMING							
District	G	5	R	7,907 B	8,473 B	107	1,668
County	L	4	R	18,865	17,712 A		3,980
Justice of the Peace	L	1		3,642 A	3,356 A	92	768
State Total				30,414 *	29,541 *		6,416

TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1989. (continued)

NOTE: The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table, as neither civil caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1989. All other state trial courts with civil jurisdiction are listed in the table regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

NA = Data are not available

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

SUPPORT/CUSTODY CODES:

(a) Method of count codes:

1 = The court does not have jurisdiction over support/custody cases
2 = Support/custody caseload data are not available
3 = Only contested support/custody cases and all URESA cases (where the court has jurisdiction) are counted separately from marriage dissolution cases
4 = Both contested and uncontested support/custody cases and URESA cases (where the court has jurisdiction) are counted separately from marriage dissolution cases
5 = Support/custody is counted as a proceeding of the marriage dissolution and, thus, a marriage dissolution that involves support/custody is counted as one case
6 = Support/custody is counted as a proceeding of the marriage dissolution, but URESA cases are counted separately

**Nondissolution support/custody cases are also counted separately

***Court has only URESA jurisdiction

(b) Decree change counted as:

NC = Not counted/collected
NF = New filing
R = Reopened case

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an effect on the state's total.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:

Arkansas--County Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **real property rights**, **miscellaneous domestic relations**, and **miscellaneous civil** cases.
--Municipal Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include data from 5 municipalities, and partial data from 23 others.

California--Superior Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include cases from several courts that did not report.
--Justice Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include partial year data from several courts.

Colorado--County Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include cases from Denver County.

Delaware--Alderman's Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include cases from one court that did not report.

Georgia--Magistrate Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include cases from 16 counties that did not report.
--Probate Court--Total **civil** filed data include cases from 97 of 159 counties and are less than 75% complete.
--State Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include cases from 20 of 62 courts and are less than 75% complete.

Idaho--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **mental health** cases.

Indiana--Superior and Circuit Courts--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **civil appeals**, **miscellaneous domestic relations**, and some **support/custody** cases.
--Probate Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **miscellaneous domestic relations cases.**
--Municipal Court of Marion County--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **appeals of trial court** cases.

Kentucky--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **paternity/bastardy** cases.

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total **civil** disposed data do not include some **real property rights**, some **small claims**, some **miscellaneous domestic relations** and some **miscellaneous civil** cases.

Michigan--Probate Court--Total **civil** disposed data do not include **paternity/bastardy**, **miscellaneous domestic relations**, **mental health**, and **miscellaneous civil** cases and are less than 75% complete.

Montana--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include some **trial court civil appeals** cases.

New Hampshire--District Court--Total **civil** disposed data do not include **tort**, **contract**, **real property rights**, **small claims**, and **miscellaneous domestic relations** cases and are less than 75% complete.

New York--District and City Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **administrative agency appeals** cases.
--Civil Court of the City of New York--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **administrative agency appeals** cases.
--Surrogates' Court--Total **civil** disposed data do not include **estate** cases and are less than 75% complete.

Oregon--Justice of the Peace Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include cases from several courts due to incomplete reporting.

Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Total **civil** data do not include some **unclassified civil** cases.
--Philadelphia Municipal Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **miscellaneous domestic relations** cases.

Rhode Island--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include **administrative agency appeals** and **mental health** cases.
--Family Court--Total **civil** filed data do not include **paternity/bastardy** and **adoption** cases. Disposed data do not include most **marriage dissolution** cases, all **adoption** and **paternity/bastardy** cases and are less than 75% complete.

South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total **civil** disposed data do not include **adoption**, **miscellaneous domestic relations**, **estate**, **mental health**, and **administrative agency appeals** cases.

Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of 81%.
--Municipal Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of 81%.

Virginia--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed

Table 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1989. (continued)

data do not include some **mental health** and some **domestic relations** cases.

Wyoming--County Court--Total **civil** disposed data do not include **appeals of trial court** cases.

--Justice of the Peace Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data do not include cases from one county and partial data from another.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

Alaska--Superior Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include extraordinary writs, orders to show cause, unfair trade practices, and **postconviction remedy proceedings**.

Connecticut--Superior Court--Total **civil** filed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **criminal postconviction remedy proceedings** and some **criminal** and **traffic/other violation** cases.

Illinois--Circuit Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **miscellaneous criminal** cases.

Iowa--District Court--Total **civil** filed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Louisiana--District Court--Total **civil** filed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Maryland--Circuit Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **estate** cases from all but two jurisdictions of the Orphan's Court.

Missouri--Circuit Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include extraordinary writs.

New Mexico--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Ohio--Court of Common Pleas--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Oregon--Circuit Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **criminal appeals** cases and **postconviction remedy proceedings**.

Rhode Island--Superior Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

South Carolina--Circuit Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings** and **miscellaneous criminal** cases.

Texas--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **child-victim petition** cases and some other proceedings.

--County-Level Courts--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **child-victim petition** cases.

Utah--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Washington--Superior Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

West Virginia--Circuit Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings** and extraordinary writs.

Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **criminal appeals** cases.

Wyoming--District Court--Total **civil** filed data include **criminal appeals** cases and **postconviction remedy proceedings**. Total **civil** disposed data include **criminal appeals**, **juvenile** cases, and **postconviction remedy proceedings**.

C: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:

Alabama--Circuit Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include URESA cases.

Connecticut--Superior Court--Total **civil** disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include most **small claims** cases, and are less than 75% complete.

Iowa--District Court--Total **civil** disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include a few **domestic relations** cases.

Nebraska--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include **civil appeals** cases.

New York--Supreme and County Courts--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include **civil appeals** cases.

Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include URESA cases.

--District Court--Total **civil** filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include **small claims** cases.

TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1989

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes	Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
ALABAMA							
Circuit	G	G	A	41,462 B	37,888 B	91	1,007
District	L	B	B	130,477 B	125,675 B	96	3,168
Municipal	L	M	B	100,756 C	91,067 C	90	2,446
State Total				272,695 *	254,630 *	93	6,620
ALASKA							
Superior	G	B	A	2,757 A	2,409 A	87	523
District	L	B	B	25,994 B	23,955 B	92	4,932
State Total				28,751 *	26,364 *	92	5,456
ARIZONA							
Superior	G	D	A	26,993	24,789	92	759
Justice of the Peace	L	Z	B	67,233 A	57,078 A	85	1,890
Municipal	L	Z	B	209,086	210,611	101	5,878
State Total				303,312 *	292,478 *	96	8,527
ARKANSAS							
Circuit	G	A	A	31,606	40,510 B		1,313
City	L	A	B	6,005 B	3,630 B	60	249
Justice of the Peace	L	A	B	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	A	B	175,615 C	129,152 C	74	7,296
Police	L	A	B	NA	NA		
State Total							
CALIFORNIA							
Superior	G	B	A	135,924 A	127,502 A	94	468
Justice	L	B	B	59,707 C	51,113 C	86	205
Municipal	L	B	B	939,864 C	762,613 C	81	3,234
State Total				1,135,495 *	941,228 *	83	3,907
COLORADO							
District, Denver Juvenile, Denver Probate	G	D	B	20,304 B	19,837 B	98	612
County	L	D	B	78,081 C	42,201 C		2,355
State Total				98,385 *	62,038 *	63	2,967
CONNECTICUT							
Superior	G	E	A	176,268 C	182,458		5,442
DELAWARE							
Superior	G	B	A	5,265 B	5,011 B	95	783
Alderman's	L	A	B	4,517 C	4,267 C	94	672
Court of Common Pleas	L	A	B	33,044 A	31,500 A	95	4,917
Family	L	B	B	4,468	3,814	85	665
Justice of the Peace	L	A	B	57,834	57,330	99	8,606
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	A	B	14,353 C	14,974 C	104	2,136
State Total				119,481 *	116,896 *	98	17,780

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes	Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Superior	G	B	G	40,810 A	40,464 A	99	6,757
FLORIDA							
Circuit	G	E	A	200,121	176,513 A		1,579
County	L	A	B	421,497	350,515	83	3,326
State Total				621,618	527,028 *		4,906
GEORGIA							
Superior	G	G	A	87,429 B	81,841 B	94	1,358
Civil	L	M	M	NA	NA		
County Recorder's	L	M	M	NA	NA		
Magistrate's	L	B	B	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	M	M	NA	NA		
Municipal and City of Atlanta	L	M	M	NA	NA		
Probate	L	B	A	3,826 A	3,578 A	94	59
State	L	G	A	69,203 A	67,511 A	98	1,075
State Total							
HAWAII							
Circuit	G	G	B	7,178 A	5,307 A	74	646
District	L	A	C	35,317 A	34,717 A	98	3,176
State Total				42,495 *	40,024 *	94	3,821
IDAHO							
District	G	D	F	61,965 B	58,163 B	94	6,111
ILLINOIS							
Circuit	G	G	A	436,003 C	535,945 C	123	3,740
INDIANA							
Superior and Circuit	G	B	A	103,668 A	91,173 A	88	1,854
City and Town	L	B	F	41,488 B	35,862 B	86	742
County	L	B	F	38,986	37,889	97	697
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	B	F	40,239	38,562	96	719
State Total				224,381 *	203,486 *	91	4,012
IOWA							
District	G	B	A	55,888 A	52,771 A	94	1,969
KANSAS							
District	G	B	C	37,737	39,777	105	1,502
Municipal	G	B	C	4,012 A	5,400 A	135	160
State Total				41,749 *	45,177 *	108	1,661

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TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes	Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult popula-tion
KENTUCKY							
Circuit	G	B	A	14,680 B	12,730 B	87	394
District	L	B	F	152,125 C	135,670 C	89	4,082
State Total				166,805 *	148,400 *	89	4,476
LOUISIANA							
District	G	Z	A	79,727 A	NA		1,819
City and Parish	L	B	F	121,304 A	97,555 A	80	2,768
State Total				201,031 *			4,587
MAINE							
Superior	G	E	A	9,561 C	8,999 C	94	782
District	L	E	F	37,285 C	33,771 C	91	3,051
State Total				46,846 *	42,770 *	91	3,834
MARYLAND							
Circuit	G	B	A	61,106 B	52,808 B	86	1,302
District	L	B	A	212,083	197,853	93	4,518
State Total				273,189 *	250,661 *	92	5,820
MASSACHUSETTS							
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G	D	B	71,235 A	9,301 A		1,205
MICHIGAN							
Circuit	G	B	A	60,772	59,185	97	655
District	L	B	B	269,033 C	248,219 C	92	2,901
Municipal	L	B	B	2,680 C	2,381 C	89	29
State Total				332,485 *	309,785 *	93	3,585
MINNESOTA							
District	G	B	B	178,580 C	175,098 C	98	4,103
MISSOURI							
Circuit	G	H	A	132,581	120,299	91	2,569
MONTANA							
District	G	G	A	3,611 B	4,460 B	124	449
City	L	B	B	NA	NA		
Justice of the Peace	L	B	B	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	B	B	NA	NA		
State Total							
NEBRASKA							
District	G	B	A	6,377 B	6,390 B	100	396
County	L	B	F	74,117 C	71,545 C	97	4,601
State Total				80,494 *	77,935 *	97	4,997

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TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes	Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
NEVADA							
District	G	Z	A	8 A	NA		1
Justice	L	Z	B	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	Z	B	NA	NA		
State Total							
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Superior	G	A	A	9,116	8,860	97	824
District	L	A	B	50,035 A	NA		4,524
Municipal	L	A	B	812 A	NA		73
State Total				59,963 *			5,422
NEW JERSEY							
Superior	G	B	A	56,741	49,222	87	733
Municipal	L	B	B	391,439	357,455	91	5,060
State Total				448,180	406,677	91	5,793
NEW MEXICO							
District	G	E	A	10,762	10,576	98	704
Magistrate	L	E	B	42,350 B	32,504 B	77	2,772
Metropolitan Ct. of Bernalillo County	L	E	B	57,999 C	63,503 C	109	3,796
State Total				111,111 *	106,583 *	96	7,272
NEW YORK							
Supreme and County	G	E	A	79,025 A	75,240 A	95	440
District and City	L	E	D	238,076 B	216,249 B	91	1,326
Town and Village Justice	L	E	B	NA	NA		
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	E	D	263,597 A	259,678 A	99	1,469
State Total							
NORTH CAROLINA							
Superior	G	E	A	100,587	94,625	94	1,531
District	L	E	G	568,728 C	547,340 C	96	8,656
State Total				669,315 *	641,965 *	96	10,187
NORTH DAKOTA							
District	G	B	A	1,531 B	1,482 B	97	232
County	L	E	F	15,708 A	16,442 A	105	2,376
Municipal	L	B	B	NA	NA		
State Total							
OHIO							
Court of Common Pleas	G	B	C	51,959	51,740	100	476
County	L	B	E	42,982 B	43,137 B	100	394
Mayor's	L	B	E	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	B	E	423,282 B	430,851 B	102	3,880
State Total							

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TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes	Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
OKLAHOMA							
District	G	J	A	68,152 B	63,415 B	93	2,115
OREGON							
Circuit	G	E	G	27,248 A	26,454 A	97	966
District	L	E	G	69,110 A	61,901 A	90	2,451
Justice	L	E	B	8,060 C	7,683 C	95	286
Municipal	L	A	B	32,673 C	28,991 C	89	1,159
State Total				137,091 *	125,029 *	91	4,861
PENNSYLVANIA							
Court of Common Pleas	G	B	A	128,478 A	119,478 A	93	1,067
District Justice Court	L	B	B	513,338 B	432,769 B	84	4,264
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	B	B	41,510 C	42,028 C	101	345
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	B	B	NA	NA		
State Total							
PUERTO RICO							
Superior	G	J	B	32,288 B	29,164 B	90	981
District	L	J	B	50,600 C	47,640 C	94	1,538
State Total				82,888 *	76,804 *	93	2,519
RHODE ISLAND							
Superior	G	D	A	7,607	7,584	100	764
District	L	D	B	43,181 C	41,292 C	96	4,335
State Total				50,788 *	48,876 *	96	5,099
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Circuit	G	B	A	95,334	69,105	72	2,715
Magistrate	L	B	E	148,025 C	147,518 C	100	4,215
Municipal	L	B	E	86,349 A	NA		2,459
State Total				329,708 *			9,388
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Circuit	G	B	B	39,726	15,968 A		5,548
TENNESSEE							
Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery	G	Z	A	57,747 A	48,040 A	83	1,169
General Sessions	L	M	M	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	M	M	NA	NA		
State Total							
TEXAS							
District	G	B	A	159,415 B	151,940		938
County-Level	L	B	F	411,394	346,576 A		2,421
Justice of the Peace	L	A	B	563,943 A	408,524 A	72	3,319
Municipal	L	A	B	537,709 A	341,479 A	64	3,165
State Total				1,672,461 *	1,248,519 *		9,843

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TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes	Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult popula-tion
UTAH							
District	G	J	A	4,215 B	5,221 B	124	247
Circuit	L	B	A	61,466 C	53,632 C	87	3,601
Justice	L	B	B	44,421 C	41,514 C	93	2,602
State Total				110,102 *	100,367 *	91	6,450
VERMONT							
District	G	D	C	22,190 B	20,717 B	93	3,920
Superior	G	B	A	138	102	74	24
State Total				22,328 *	20,819 *	93	3,945
VIRGINIA							
Circuit	G	A	A	93,991 B	88,097 B	94	1,542
District	L	A	E	463,131 A	500,763 A	108	7,596
State Total				557,122 *	588,860 *	106	9,138
WASHINGTON							
Superior	G	G	A	29,208	25,828	88	614
District	L	C	B	133,476 A	104,562 A	78	2,804
Municipal	L	C	B	87,705	60,391	69	1,843
State Total				250,389 *	190,781 *	76	5,260
WEST VIRGINIA							
Circuit	G	J	A	6,786	6,759	100	365
Magistrate	L	J	E	119,210 A	113,665 A	95	6,419
Municipal	L	A	B	NA	NA		
State Total							
WISCONSIN							
Circuit	G	D	C	85,407 A	76,731 A	90	1,755
Municipal	L	A	B	NA	NA		
State Total							
WYOMING							
District	G	J	A	1,591 A	1,584 A	100	336
County	L	J	B	10,375 A	NA		2,189
Justice of the Peace	L	J	B	4,030 A	NA		850
Municipal	L	A	B	1,383 A	NA		292
State Total				17,379 *			3,666

TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1989. (continued)

NOTE: The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table, as neither criminal caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1989. All other state trial courts with criminal jurisdiction are listed in the table regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

NA = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

UNIT OF COUNT CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = Single defendant--single charge
B = Single defendant--single incident (one/more charges)
C = Single defendant--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
D = Single defendant--one/more incidents
E = Single defendant--content varies with prosecutor
F = One/more defendants--single charge
G = One/more defendants--single incident (one/more charges)
H = One/more defendants--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
J = One/more defendants--one/more incidents
K = One/more defendants--content varies with prosecutor
L = Inconsistent during reporting year
Z = Both the defendant and charge components vary within the state

POINT OF FILING CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = At the filing of the information/indictment
B = At the filing of the complaint
C = When defendant enters plea/initial appearance
D = When docketed
E = At issuing of warrant
F = At filing of information/complaint
G = Varies (at filing of the complaint, information, indictment)

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an effect on the state's total.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:

Alaska--Superior Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **criminal appeals** cases.

Arizona--Justice of the Peace Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

California--Superior Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include cases from several courts that did not report.

Delaware--Court of Common Pleas--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include most **felony** cases.

District of Columbia--Superior Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Florida--Circuit Court--Total **criminal** disposed data do not include **criminal appeals** cases.

Georgia--Probate Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include cases from 51 of 159 counties, do not include **DWI/DUI** cases, which are reported with **traffic/other violation** data, and are less than 75% complete.
--State Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include cases from 21 of 62 courts, do not include some **DWI/DUI** and **misdemeanor** cases, which are reported with **traffic/other violation** data, and are less than 75% complete.

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include reopened prior cases.
--District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include some **misdemeanor** cases.

Indiana--Superior and Circuit Courts--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **criminal appeals** cases.

Iowa--District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include some **misdemeanor** cases.

Kansas--Municipal Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of less than 75%.

Louisiana--District Court--This figure is estimated by the State Court Administrator's Office on the basis that 75% of **criminal** cases reported are **traffic** cases. Filed data do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.
--City and Parish Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total **criminal** filed data do not include some **misdemeanor** cases. Disposed data do not include any **misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal**, and some **criminal appeals** cases and are less than 75% complete.

Nevada--District Court--Total **criminal** filed data do not include **felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI,** and **miscellaneous criminal** cases and are less than 75% complete.

New Hampshire--District Court--Total **criminal** filed data do not include **limited felony** cases.
--Municipal Court--Total **criminal** filed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

New York--Supreme and County Courts--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **criminal appeals** cases.
--Criminal Court of the City of New York--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

North Dakota--County Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

Oregon--Circuit Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **criminal appeals** cases.
--District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include some **criminal appeals** cases.

South Carolina--Municipal Court--Total **criminal** filed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total **criminal** disposed data do not include most **misdemeanor** and some **criminal appeals** cases and are less than 75% complete.

Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Courts--Total **criminal** filed data do not include **miscellaneous criminal** cases. Disposed data do not include **DWI/DUI** and **miscellaneous criminal** cases.

Texas--County-Level Courts--Total **criminal** disposed data do not include some **criminal appeals** cases.

Table 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1989. (continued)

–Justice of the Peace Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases and represent a reporting rate of 81%.
–Municipal Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases and represent a reporting rate of 81%.

Virginia--District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Washington–District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

West Virginia–Magistrate Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **limited felony** cases.

Wisconsin--Circuit Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **criminal appeals** and some **DWI/DUI** cases.

Wyoming--District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data do not include **criminal appeals** cases.
–County Court–Total **criminal** filed data do not include **limited felony** cases.
–Justice of the Peace Court–Total **criminal** filed data do not include **limited felony** cases, data from one county, and partial data from another.
–Municipal Court–Total criminal filed data do not include **misdemeanor** cases and are less than 75% complete.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

Alabama--Circuit Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**
–District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing proceedings.**

Alaska–District Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include some **moving traffic** cases and all **ordinance violation** cases.

Arkansas--Circuit Court–Total **criminal** disposed data include **postconviction remedy** and **probation revocation proceedings.**
–City Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases.

Colorado–District, Denver Juvenile, and Denver Probate Courts–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include extraditions, revocations, parole, and release from commitment hearings.

Delaware–Superior Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Georgia--Superior Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include all **traffic/other violation** cases.

Idaho--District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy** and **sentence review only proceedings.**

Indiana--City and Town Courts--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include some **ordinance violation** and some other traffic cases.

Kentucky–Circuit Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **sentence review only** and **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Maryland--Circuit Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include some **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Montana–District Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include some **trial court civil appeals** cases.

Nebraska–District Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **civil appeals** cases.

New Mexico–Magistrate Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing proceedings.**

New York--District and City Courts–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases.

North Dakota–District Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **sentence review** only and **postconviction remedy proceedings.**

Ohio–County Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases.
–Municipal Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases.

Oklahoma--District Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases.

Pennsylvania–District Justice Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases.

Puerto Rico–Superior Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases.

Texas--District Court--Total **criminal** filed data include some other proceedings.

Utah–District Court--Total **criminal** data include some **postconviction remedy** and all **sentence review only proceedings.**

Vermont–District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases.

Virginia--Circuit Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases.

C: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:

Alabama--Municipal Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include data that were unavailable from a few municipalities. Filed data also do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Arkansas--Municipal Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **felony** cases and data from several municipalities.

California–Justice Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing** bindovers and transfers, and some **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **DWI/DUI** cases and partial year data from several courts.
–Municipal Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing** bindovers and transfers and some **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Colorado–County Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include some **preliminary hearings**, but do not include cases from Denver County. Disposed data also do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Connecticut--Superior Court--Total **criminal** filed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Delaware–Municipal Court of Wilmington--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **limited felony** and most **DWI/DUI** cases.
–Alderman's Court–Total criminal filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include cases from one court that did not report.

Illinois–Circuit Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include some **preliminary hearings** and some **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **DWI/DUI and miscellaneous criminal** cases.

Kentucky–District Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases and **sentence review only proceedings,** but do not include **limited felony** cases.

Maine--Superior Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, and **postconviction remedy** and **sentence review only proceedings,** but do not include **DWI/DUI** and some **criminal appeals** cases.
–District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearings,** but do not include **DWI/DUI** and some **misdemeanor** cases, and are less than 75% complete.

Michigan–District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Table 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1989. (continued)

–Municipal Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Minnesota–District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include some **DWI/DUI** cases.

Nebraska–County Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **limited felony** cases.

New Mexico–Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **limited felony** cases.

North Carolina--District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violations**, but do not include **limited felony** cases.

Oregon--Justice of the Peace Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing proceedings, but do not include data from several courts

–Municipal Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

Pennsylvania–Philadelphia Municipal Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **preliminary hearing proceedings**, but do not include some **misdemeanor** cases.

–Pittsburgh City Magistrates–Total **criminal** filed data include **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **limited felony** cases.

Puerto Rico–District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases, and **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **limited felony** and **DWI/DUI** cases.

Rhode Island–District Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **moving traffic violation** and **ordinance violation** cases, but do not include **limited felony** cases.

South Carolina--Magistrate Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **miscellaneous juvenile** cases, but do not include **felony** and **DWI/DUI** cases, and are less than 75% complete. (Filed data were estimated using percentages provided by the AOC.)

Utah–Circuit Court--Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include **postconviction remedy proceedings**, but do not include some **miscellaneous criminal** cases. Disposed data also do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.

–Justice Court–Total **criminal** filed and disposed data include some **moving traffic violation** cases, but do not include **limited felony** cases.

TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1989

State/court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
ALABAMA						
District	L	1	255,945	261,145	102	6,214
Municipal	L	1	619,352 C	418,525 A		15,036
State Total			875,297 *	679,670 *		21,250
ALASKA						
District	L	3	68,902 A	68,902 A	100	13,074
ARIZONA						
Justice of the Peace	L	1	425,732	414,566	97	11,969
Municipal	L	1	868,518	873,592	101	24,417
State Total			1,294,250	1,288,158	100	36,386
ARKANSAS						
City	L	1	15,150 A	7,921 A	52	629
Municipal	L	1	333,212 A	199,619 A	60	13,843
Police	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
CALIFORNIA						
Justice	L	3	480,931 C	396,702 C	82	1,655
Municipal	L	3	14,106,961 C	12,168,652 C	86	48,538
State Total			14,587,892 *	12,565,354 *	86	50,192
COLORADO						
County	L	2	211,065 A	206,462 C		6,365
Municipal	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
CONNECTICUT						
Superior	G	6	252,029 C	264,117		7,781
DELAWARE						
Alderman's	L	4	19,512 A	19,348 A	99	2,904
Family	L	2	473	479	101	70
Justice of the Peace	L	2	152,010	151,490	100	22,621
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	5	20,253 C	19,853 C	98	3,014
State Total			192,248 *	191,170 *	99	28,608
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Superior	G	6	18,867 B	18,230 B	97	3,124
FLORIDA						
County	L	5	3,453,820	2,715,638	79	27,258

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
GEORGIA						
Superior	G	2	NA	NA		
County Recorder's	L	1	NA	NA		
Juvenile	L	2	12,996	10,762	83	202
Magistrate's	L	2	59,191 A	45,450 A	77	920
Municipal and City of Atlanta	L	1	NA	NA		
Probate	L	2	73,755 C	69,957 C	95	1,146
State	L	2	145,728 C	133,406 C	92	2,264
State Total						
HAWAII						
Circuit	G	2	199 A	213 A	107	18
District	L	4	877,567 B	831,645 B	95	78,918
State Total			877,766 *	831,858 *	95	78,936
IDAHO						
District	G	3	240,679	238,171	99	23,736
ILLINOIS						
Circuit	G	4	8,015,073 C	4,060,135 C	51	68,752
INDIANA						
Superior and Circuit	G	3	282,735	265,329	94	5,055
City and Town	L	3	178,327 A	159,336 A	89	3,188
County	L	4	84,356	82,393	98	1,508
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	3	94,172	94,879	101	1,684
State Total			639,590 *	601,937 *	94	11,436
IOWA						
District	G	3	740,004 B	733,896 B	99	26,075
KANSAS						
District	G	4	246,785 A	244,801 A	99	9,820
Municipal	G	1	166,627 A	157,140 A	94	6,631
State Total			413,412 *	401,941 *	97	16,451
KENTUCKY						
District	L	3	274,804 A	272,224 A	99	7,373
LOUISIANA						
District	G	1	239,180 B	NA		5,457
City and Parish	L	1	482,446 B	402,674 B	83	11,007
Justice of the Peace	L	1	NA	NA		
Mayor's	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						

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TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
MAINE						
Superior	G	2	2,627 C	2,791 C	106	215
District	L	4	220,270 B	215,926 B	98	18,025
State Total			222,897 *	218,717 *	98	18,240
MARYLAND						
District	L	1	1,078,984 A	968,393 A	90	22,986
MASSACHUSETTS						
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G	1	1,312,704 C	1,242,183 C	95	22,204
MICHIGAN						
District	L	4	2,457,452 C	2,370,616 C	96	26,498
Municipal	L	4	45,939 C	42,412 C	92	495
Probate	L	2	NA	NA		
State Total						
MINNESOTA						
District	G	4	1,537,369 C	1,531,237 C	100	35,326
MISSOURI						
Circuit	G	1	428,322 A	421,510 A	98	8,301
Municipal	L	2	NA	NA		
State Total						
MONTANA						
City	L	1	NA	NA		
Justice of the Peace	L	1	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
NEBRASKA						
County	L	1	292,959 A	301,976 A	103	18,185
NEVADA						
Justice	L	1	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
District	L	4	263,346	NA		23,811
Municipal	L	4	3,971	NA		359
State Total			267,317			24,170
NEW JERSEY						
Municipal	L	4	6,012,061	6,023,917	100	77,715

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TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
NEW MEXICO						
Magistrate	L	3	66,868	53,583	80	4,376
Metropolitan Ct. of Bernalillo County	L	3	235,818 A	165,768 A	70	15,433
Municipal	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
NEW YORK						
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	2	94,092 A	93,876 A	100	524
District and City	L	4	1,416,043 A	1,416,043 A	100	7,889
Town and Village Justice	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
NORTH CAROLINA						
District	L	6	1,082,779 C	1,049,066 C	97	16,481
NORTH DAKOTA						
District	G	4	559	NA		85
County	L	1	59,087 A	59,094 A	100	8,939
Municipal	L	1	NA	49,342 C		
State Total						
OHIO						
Court of Common Pleas	G	2	124,313	123,921	100	1,140
County	L	5	223,321 A	227,151 A	102	2,047
Mayor's	L	1	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	5	1,568,979 A	1,543,525 A	98	14,384
State Total						
OKLAHOMA						
District	G	2	196,355 A	185,083 A	94	6,092
Municipal Court Not of Record	L	1	NA	NA		
Municipal Criminal Court of Record	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
OREGON						
District	L	1	344,504 A	304,328 A	88	12,216
Justice	L	3	93,641 A	97,113 A	104	3,321
Municipal	L	3	205,067 C	186,114 C	91	7,272
State Total			643,212 *	587,555 *	91	22,809
PENNSYLVANIA						
District Justice Court	L	4	1,439,304 A	1,315,595 A	91	11,955
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	2	28,265 B	27,888 B	99	235
Philadelphia Traffic Court	L	1	NA	NA		
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	4	NA	NA		
State Total						

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
PUERTO RICO						
District	L	2	77,226 C	74,212 C	96	2,347
Municipal	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
RHODE ISLAND						
District	L	2	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
SOUTH CAROLINA						
Family	L	2	NA	NA		
Magistrate	L	4	496,000 C	494,262 C	100	14,123
Municipal	L	4	308,567	392,229 B		8,786
State Total						
SOUTH DAKOTA						
Circuit	G	3	137,837	155,072 B		19,251
TENNESSEE						
Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery	G	2	NA	NA		
General Sessions	L	1	NA	NA		
Municipal	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
TEXAS						
County-Level	L	2	22,912	92,295 B		135
Justice of the Peace	L	4	1,716,284 A	1,534,451 A	89	10,101
Municipal	L	4	5,369,909 A	4,248,821 A	79	31,604
State Total			7,109,105 *	5,875,567 *		41,840
UTAH						
Circuit	L	4	165,648 B	165,066 B	100	9,704
Justice	L	4	255,995 A	245,542 A	96	14,997
Juvenile	L	2	5,322	6,071	114	312
State Total			426,965 *	416,679 *	98	25,013
VERMONT						
District	G	2	104,148 A	104,179 A	100	18,401
VIRGINIA						
Circuit	G	2	NA	NA		
District	L	4	1,549,908 B	1,555,837 B	100	25,421
State Total						
WASHINGTON						
District	L	4	602,635	629,449	104	12,660
Municipal	L	4	1,134,771	863,555	76	23,840
State Total			1,737,406	1,493,004	86	36,500

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TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
WEST VIRGINIA						
Magistrate	L	2	127,609	115,988	91	6,872
Municipal	L	1	NA	NA		
State Total						
WISCONSIN						
Circuit	G	3	569,461 B	567,903 B	100	11,700
Municipal	L	3	NA	358,350 C		
State Total				926,253 *		
WYOMING						
County	L	1	78,683	92,858 B		16,600
Justice of the Peace	L	1	20,670 A	24,116 C		4,361
Municipal	L	1	50,879 B	52,747 B	104	10,734
State Total			150,232 *	169,721 *		31,695

TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1989. (continued)

NOTE: Parking violations are defined as part of the traffic/other violation caseload. However, states and courts within a state differ to the extent in which parking violations are processed through the courts. A code opposite the name of each court indicates the manner in which parking cases are reported by the court. Qualifying footnotes in Table 11 do not repeat the information provided by the code, and, thus, refer only to the status of the statistics on moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, and ordinance violations. The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table, as neither traffic/other violation caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1989. All other state trial courts with traffic/other violation jurisdiction are listed in the table regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

NA = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

PARKING CODES:

1 = Parking data are unavailable
2 = Court does not have parking jurisdiction
3 = Only contested parking cases are included
4 = Both contested and uncontested parking cases are included
5 = Parking cases are handled administratively
6 = Uncontested parking cases are handled administratively; contested parking cases are handled by the court

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an effect on the state's total.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:

Alabama–Municipal Court–Total **traffic/other violation** disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases and data that were unavailable from a few municipalities.

Alaska–District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include some **moving traffic violation** cases and all **ordinance violation** cases.

Arkansas--City Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.
–Municipal Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases and are missing all data from 5 municipalities and partial data from 23 others.

Colorado–County Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed data do not include cases from Denver County Court.

Delaware–Alderman's Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases and cases from one court that did not report.

Georgia--Magistrate Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include cases from 16 counties that did not report.

Hawaii–Circuit Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include reopened prior cases.

Indiana--City and Town Courts--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include some **ordinance violation** and some other traffic cases.

Kansas--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include juvenile traffic cases.
–Municipal Court–Total **traffic/other violation** data represent a reporting rate of less than 75%.

Kentucky–District Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Maryland--District Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **parking** cases and are less than 75% complete. Disposed data also do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Missouri--Circuit Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **parking** and those **ordinance violation** cases heard by municipal judges.

Nebraska–County Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** and **parking** cases.

New Mexico–Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

New York--District and City Courts–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.
–Criminal Court of the City of New York--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **moving traffic, miscellaneous** traffic, and some **ordinance violation** cases and are less than 75% complete.

North Dakota–County Court--Total **traffic/other violation** data do not include **parking** cases and are less than 75% complete.

Ohio–County Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.
–Municipal Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Oklahoma--District Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Oregon--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **parking** cases.
–Justice of the Peace Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include cases from several courts due to incomplete reporting.

Pennsylvania–District Justice Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.
–Pittsburgh City Magistrates–Total **traffic/other violation** filed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Texas–Justice of the Peace Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of 81%.
–Municipal Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of 81%.

Utah–Justice Court–Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include some **moving traffic violation** cases.

Vermont–District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Wyoming--Justice of the Peace Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed data do not include data from one county and partial data from another.

TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1989. (continued)

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

District of Columbia--Superior Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases.

Hawaii--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include some **misdemeanor** cases.

Iowa--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include some **misdemeanor** cases.

Louisiana--District Court--This figure is estimated by the State Court Administrator's Office on the basis that 75% of **criminal** cases reported (318,907) are **traffic** cases. Filed data include DWI/DUI cases.
--City and Parish Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases.

Maine--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include some **misdemeanor** and all DWI/DUI cases.

Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include **miscellaneous domestic relations** and some **misdemeanor** cases.

South Carolina--Municipal Court--Total **traffic/other violation** disposed data include **misdemeanor** and DWI/DUI cases.

South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total **traffic/other violation** disposed data include some **misdemeanor** and some **criminal appeals** cases.

Texas--County-Level Courts--Total **traffic/other violation** disposed data include some **criminal appeals** cases.

Utah--Circuit Court--Total **traffic/other violation** data include some **miscellaneous criminal** cases.

Virginia--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases.

Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include uncontested first offense DWI/DUI cases.

Wyoming--County Court--Total **traffic/other violation** disposed data include **misdemeanor** and DWI/DUI cases.
--Municipal Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include **misdemeanor** cases. Disposed data also include DWI/DUI cases.

C: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:

Alabama--Municipal Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases and data that were unavailable from a few municipalities.

California--Justice Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include some **ordinance violation** cases and partial year data from several courts.
--Municipal Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include some **ordinance violation** cases.

Colorado--County Court--Total **traffic/other violation** disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include data from Denver County Court.

Connecticut--Superior Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Delaware--Municipal Court of Wilmington--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include most DWI/DUI cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Georgia--State Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include some DWI/DUI and **misdemeanor** cases, represent data from 22 of 62 courts, and are less than 75% complete.
--Probate Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, represent data from 51 of 159 counties, and are less than 75% complete.

Illinois--Circuit Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include some **ordinance violation** cases.

Maine--Superior Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI and some **criminal appeals** cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total **traffic/other violation** filed data include some **misdemeanor** cases, but do not include **parking** cases. Disposed data include some **misdemeanor** cases, but do not include **ordinance violation**, **parking**, **miscellaneous traffic**, and some moving **traffic** cases.

Michigan--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases.
--Municipal Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Minnesota--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include some DWI/DUI cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

North Carolina--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include some DWI/DUI cases, but do not include some **ordinance violation** cases.

North Dakota--Municipal Court--Total **traffic/other violation** disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** and **parking** cases, and are less than 75% complete.

Oregon--Municipal Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Puerto Rico--District Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, transfers, and reopened cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

South Carolina--Magistrate Court--Total **traffic/other violation** filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include **ordinance violation** cases.

Wisconsin--Municipal Court--Total **traffic/other violation** disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include cases from several municipalities.

Wyoming--Justice of the Peace Court--Total **traffic/other violation** disposed data include **misdemeanor**, DWI/DUI, and **criminal appeals** cases, but do not include data from one county and partial data from another.

TABLE 12: Reported Total State Trial Court Juvenile Caseload, 1989

State/court name:	Juris-diction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
ALABAMA						
Circuit	G	A	26,655 B	22,745 B	85	2,406
District	L	A	38,748	38,346	99	3,497
State Total			65,403 *	61,091 *	93	5,903
ALASKA						
Superior	G	C	2,028	1,486	73	1,229
District	L	I	71	8	11	43
State Total			2,099	1,494	71	1,272
ARIZONA						
Superior	G	C	12,199	12,205	100	1,242
ARKANSAS						
Chancery and Probate	G	C	12,948	11,928	92	1,992
CALIFORNIA						
Superior	G	C	91,512 A	82,816 A	90	1,186
COLORADO						
District, Denver Juvenile, Denver Probate	G	A	16,033	13,925	87	1,856
CONNECTICUT						
Superior	G	F	14,536	14,162	97	1,915
DELAWARE						
Family	L	C	7,698 A	6,652 A	86	4,582
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Superior	G	B	5,930 A	6,193 A	104	4,266
FLORIDA						
Circuit	G	A	108,013	74,325	69	3,761
GEORGIA						
Juvenile	L	A	63,484	48,672	77	3,533
HAWAII						
Circuit	G	F	16,157	14,918	92	5,610
IDAHO						
District	G	C	7,626	6,976	91	2,509
ILLINOIS						
Circuit	G	C	35,937	36,152	101	1,206

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TABLE 12: Reported Total State Trial Court Juvenile Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/court name:	Juris-diction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
INDIANA						
Superior and Circuit	G	C	28,899 B	25,692 B	89	1,979
Probate	L	C	810 B	689 B	85	55
State Total			29,709 *	26,381 *	89	2,035
IOWA						
District	G	A	7,078	NA		[illegible]
KANSAS						
District	G	C	14,743 B	14,138 B	96	2,237
KENTUCKY						
District	L	C	32,709 B	28,071 E	86	3,386
LOUISIANA						
District	G	C	13,808	NA		1,085
Family and Juvenile	G	C	21,549	NA		1,693
City and Parish	L	C	5,759	5,226	91	452
State Total			41,116			3,230
MAINE						
District	L	C	5,070	4,453	88	1,662
MARYLAND						
Circuit	G	C	33,596	32,013	95	2,894
District	L	C	2,899	2,349	81	250
State Total			36,495	34,362	94	3,143
MASSACHUSETTS						
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G	C	39,267	21,568 C		2,937
MICHIGAN						
Probate	L	C	28,753 C	24,921 C	87	1,176
MINNESOTA						
District	G	C	34,989	34,112	97	3,099
MISSOURI						
Circuit	G	C	18,207	17,578	97	1,394
MONTANA						
District	G	C	1,412	1,105	78	651
NEBRASKA						
County	L	C	4,454	4,375	98	1,050
Separate Juvenile	L	C	2,738	NA		646
State Total			7,192			1,696

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TABLE 12: Reported Total State Trial Court Juvenile Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/court name:	Juris-diction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
NEVADA						
District	G	C	NA	NA		
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
District	L	C	7,021	NA		2,516
NEW JERSEY						
Superior	G	F	128,772	126,002	98	7,025
NEW MEXICO						
District	G	C	9,120	8,706	95	2,009
NEW YORK						
Family	L	C	66,012	67,637	102	1,518
NORTH CAROLINA						
District	L	C	26,676	27,881	105	1,625
NORTH DAKOTA						
District	G	C	9,248	10,193 B		5,166
OHIO						
Court of Common Pleas	G	E	136,179	136,430	100	4,832
OKLAHOMA						
District	G	G	NA	NA		
OREGON						
Circuit	G	C	19,259	NA		2,763
PENNSYLVANIA						
Court of Common Pleas	G	F	56,788	57,087	101	2,000
PUERTO RICO						
Superior	G	C	8,411 B	8,111 B	96	682
RHODE ISLAND						
Family	L	C	7,725 B	7,037 B	91	3,344
SOUTH CAROLINA						
Family	L	C	15,716 B	15,398 B	98	1,646
Magistrate	L	I	NA	NA		
State Total						
SOUTH DAKOTA						
Circuit	G	B	3,767	NA		1,922

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TABLE 12: Reported Total State Trial Court Juvenile Caseload, 1989. (continued)

State/court name:	Juris-diction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
TENNESSEE						
General Sessions	L	B	NA	NA		
Juvenile	L	B	NA	NA		
State Total						
TEXAS						
District	G	C	12,574 A	13,073 A	104	254
County-Level	L	C	2,708 A	2,510 A	93	55
State Total			15,282 *	15,583 *	102	309
UTAH						
Juvenile	L	C	36,844	35,901	97	5,839
VERMONT						
District	G	C	1,667	1,745	105	1,182
VIRGINIA						
District	L	C	89,518 B	85,979 B	96	6,040
WASHINGTON						
Superior	G	A	25,219	23,464	93	2,074
WEST VIRGINIA						
Circuit	G	C	6,657	7,618	114	1,438
WISCONSIN						
Circuit	G	C	36,052	35,812	99	2,873
WYOMING						
District	G	C	1,162	NA		854

Table 12: Reported total state trial court juvenile caseload, 1989. (continued)

NOTE: The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table, as neither juvenile caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1989. All other state trial courts with juvenile jurisdiction are listed in the table regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

NA = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

POINT OF FILING CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = Filing of complaint
B = At initial hearing (intake)
C = Filing of petition
E = Issuance of warrant
F = At referral
G = Varies

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an effect on the state's total.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:

California--Superior Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data do not include cases from several courts that did not report.

Delaware--Family Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data do not include **status petition** and **child-victim petition** cases and are less than 75% complete.

District of Columbia--Superior Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data do not include most **child-victim petition** cases and are less than 75% complete.

Texas--District Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data do not include **child-victim petition** cases.
--County-Level Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data do not include **child-victim petition** cases and are less than 75% complete.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

Alabama--Circuit Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include **URESA** cases.

Indiana--Superior and Circuit Courts--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include **miscellaneous domestic relations** and some **support/custody cases.**
--Probate Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include **miscellaneous domestic relations** cases.

Kansas--District Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include juvenile **traffic/other violation** cases.

Kentucky--District Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include **paternity/bastardy** cases.

North Dakota--District Court--Total **juvenile** disposed data include **traffic/other violation** cases.

Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include transfers, reopened cases, and appeals.

Rhode Island--Family Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include **adoption** cases.

South Carolina--Family Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include **traffic/other violation** cases.

Virginia--District Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include some **mental health** and some **domestic relations** cases.

C: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total **juvenile** disposed data include juvenile traffic cases, but do not include any cases from the Juvenile Court Department and some cases from the District Court Department. The data are less than 75% complete.

Michigan--Probate Court--Total **juvenile** filed and disposed data include **traffic/other violation** cases, but do not include **status petition** cases.

TABLE 13: Mandatory Caseloads in State Appellate Courts, 1984 - 89

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court						
ALASKA						
Supreme Court	320	334	318	368	363	342
Court of Appeals	467	446	505	469	435	404
ARIZONA						
Supreme Court	105 A	81 A	118 A	116 A	112 A	159 A
Court of Appeals	2,753	2,843	3,352	3,451	3,902	3,858
ARKANSAS						
Supreme Court	479 C	439 C	411 C	459 C	400 C	443 C
Court of Appeals	855	846	951	949	899	1,079
CALIFORNIA						
Supreme Court	222 A	284 A	236 A	315 A	319 A	380 A
Courts of Appeal	10,118	10,252	10,035	9,985	10,954	11,542
COLORADO						
Supreme Court	256	200	205	214	197	205
Court of Appeals	1,580	1,626	1,862	1,930	1,946	2,012
CONNECTICUT						
Appellate Court	1,362 B	934 B	953 B	945	995	985
FLORIDA						
Supreme Court	587	597	629	581	510	642
District Courts of Appeal	11,770	12,262	13,502	13,861	14,195	13,924
GEORGIA						
Supreme Court	663 B	692 B	616 B	640 B	639 B	674
Court of Appeals	2,070 B	1,946 B	2,666 B	2,071 B	2306 B	2,361 B
HAWAII						
Supreme Court	471 B	496 B	604 B	616 B	715 B	650 B
Intermediate Court of App.	101	132	132	134	120	140
IDAHO						
Supreme Court	349 B	348 B	288 B	289 B	382 B	366 B
Court of Appeals	146	149	174	181	227	221
ILLINOIS						
Supreme Court	118	167	218	176	275	153
Appellate Court	7,134 B	7,611 B	7,550 B	7,954 B	8,119 B	8,139 B
INDIANA						
Court of Appeals	1,150 B	1,037 B	1,073 B	1,149 B	1,222 B	1,516

State/Court name:	1984 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court						
ALASKA						
Supreme Court	347	287	355	291	394	298
Court of Appeals	449	406	589	429	403	431
ARIZONA						
Supreme Court	111 A	87 A	70 A	86 A	79 A	133 A
Court of Appeals	2,598	2,953	3,445	3,372	3,240	3,478
ARKANSAS						
Supreme Court	448 C	451 C	404 C	416 C	457 C	421 C
Court of Appeals	827	895	840	983	827	978
CALIFORNIA						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
Courts of Appeal		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
COLORADO						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
Court of Appeals	1,411	1,396	1,590	1,602	2,028	2,193
CONNECTICUT						
Appellate Court	568 B	877 B	1,055 B	893	1,026	1,135
FLORIDA						
Supreme Court	530	639	644	548	534	580
District Courts of Appeal	11,941	12,540	12,847	13,591	13,559	14,073
GEORGIA						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
Court of Appeals		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
HAWAII						
Supreme Court	454 B	516 B	691 B	579 B	609 B	749 B
Intermediate Court of App.	125	105	132	142	129	138
IDAHO						
Supreme Court	352 B	333 B	359 B	295 B	332 B	347 B
Court of Appeals	175	282	174	174	162	231
ILLINOIS						
Supreme Court	120	152	207	152	292	191
Appellate Court	6,891 B	6,961 B	7,007 B	7,451 B	7,648 B	7,722 B
INDIANA						
Court of Appeals	1,137 B	1,062 B	1,116 B	1,130 B	1,137 B	1,334

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TABLE 13: Mandatory Caseloads in State Appellate Courts, 1984 - 89. (continued)

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
IOWA						
Court of Appeals	569	730	552	618	728	678
KANSAS						
Supreme Court	169	177	189	214	347	179
Court of Appeals	1,041 B	1,087 B	1,131 B	1,127 B	1,176 B	1,154 B
KENTUCKY						
Supreme Court	221	282	251	261	258	304
Court of Appeals	2,725	3,156	2,769	2,691	2,665	2,712
LOUISIANA						
Supreme Court	147 B	79 B	112	135	124	108
Courts of Appeal	3,870 B	3,578 B	3,695	3,846	3,967	3,562
MARYLAND						
Court of Appeals	220 B	218 B	238 B	233 B	242 B	205 B
Court of Special Appeals	1,777	1,642	1,644	1,714	1,754	1,841
MASSACHUSETTS						
Supreme Judicial Court	141	129	86	72	96	75
Appeals Court	1,375 B	1,301 B	1,352 B	1,434 B	1,394 B	1,451 B
MICHIGAN						
Supreme Court	5	3	4	5	4	4
MISSOURI						
Court of Appeals	2,852	3,166	3,147	3,055	3,315	3,659
NEW JERSEY						
Supreme Court	368	227	236	349	357	413
Appellate Div. Sup. Ct.	6,224 B	6,037 B	6,106 B	6,277 B	6,458 B	6,492 B
NEW MEXICO						
Supreme Court	322	303	325	320	296	368
Court of Appeals	572	662	671	604	648	777
NORTH CAROLINA						
Supreme Court	230	222	249	182	147	109
Court of Appeals	1,314 B	1,375 B	1,381 B	1,265 B	1,351 B	1,378
NORTH DAKOTA						
Supreme Court	370	338	377	382	367	397
OHIO						
Supreme Court	338	442	491	422	500	535
Court of Appeals	9,383	9,522	9,683	9,983	10,005	10,771

State/Court name:	1984 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes
IOWA						
Court of Appeals	532	637	589	578	669	799
KANSAS						
Supreme Court	343	344	331	333	459	290
Court of Appeals	1,045 B	989 B	1,106 B	1,143 B	1,174 B	1,218 B
KENTUCKY						
Supreme Court	280	259	253	271	302	305
Court of Appeals	2,696	2,757	2,661	2,304	2,243	2,438
LOUISIANA						
Supreme Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
Courts of Appeal	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
MARYLAND						
Court of Appeals	230 B	232 B	188 B	222 B	183 B	221 B
Court of Special Appeals	1,877	1,807	1,552	1,777	1,762	1,811
MASSACHUSETTS						
Supreme Judicial Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
Appeals Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
MICHIGAN						
Supreme Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
MISSOURI						
Court of Appeals	3,159	3,177	3,206	3,259	3,145	3,331
NEW JERSEY						
Supreme Court	408	251	237	381	349	383
Appellate Div. Sup. Ct.	6,262 B	6,056 B	6,611 B	6,400 B	6,494 B	6,531 B
NEW MEXICO						
Supreme Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
Court of Appeals	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
NORTH CAROLINA						
Supreme Court	219	183	245	192	213	95
Court of Appeals	1,412 B	1,464 B	1,626 B	1,310 B	1,272 B	1,188 B
NORTH DAKOTA						
Supreme Court	331	335	357	357	405	381
OHIO						
Supreme Court	320	383	414	380	462	457
Court of Appeals	9,124	9,491	9,296	9,393	9,668	9,871

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TABLE 13: Mandatory Caseloads in State Appellate Courts, 1984 - 89. (continued)

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
OREGON						
Supreme Court	205	180	145	176	192	217
Court of Appeals	3,828	3,981	4,146	4,305	3,739	3,795
SOUTH CAROLINA						
Supreme Court	479	451	519	511	624	463
Court of Appeals	404	391	351	440	307	448
UTAH						
Supreme Court	640	628	623	474	443	498
WASHINGTON						
Supreme Court	228 B	194 B	162 B	135 B	123 B	101 B
Court of Appeals	2,866	3,270	3,535	3,238	3,157	3,222
WISCONSIN						
Court of Appeals	2,239	2,358	2,053	2,185	2,147	2,355
States with no intermediate appellate court						
DELAWARE						
Supreme Court	331 B	406 B	417 B	397 B	473 B	517 B
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Court of Appeals	1,810 B	1,770 B	1,556	1,500	1,624	1,515
MISSISSIPPI						
Supreme Court	838	815	1,010	891	919	773
NEBRASKA						
Supreme Court	1,002 B	997 B	1,014 B	1,196 B	1,103 B	1,497 B
NEVADA						
Supreme Court	799	777	853	856	991	997
RHODE ISLAND						
Supreme Court	409	403	389	323	410	455
SOUTH DAKOTA						
Supreme Court	344 B	358 B	363 B	422 B	428 B	387 B
VERMONT						
Supreme Court	623 B	575	550	538	620	619
WYOMING						
Supreme Court	331	306	342	320	357	321

State/Court name:	1984 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes
OREGON						
Supreme Court	390 B	296 B	262 B	313 B	322 B	301 B
Court of Appeals	3,759	3,784	4,014	4,232	3,985	3,601
SOUTH CAROLINA						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
Court of Appeals	441	398	374	368	367	377
UTAH						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
WASHINGTON						
Supreme Court	176 B	184 B	209 B	148 B	154 B	127 B
Court of Appeals	2,724	2,994	3,238	3,870	3,289	2,902
WISCONSIN						
Court of Appeals	2,223	2,501	2,178	2,206	2,368	2,414
States with no intermediate appellate court						
DELAWARE						
Supreme Court	354 B	373 B	415 B	419 B	407 B	480 B
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Court of Appeals	1,510 B	1,568 B	1,568 B	1,595	1,602	1,598
MISSISSIPPI						
Supreme Court	637	853	912	831	793	840
NEBRASKA						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
NEVADA						
Supreme Court	788	867	854	1,013	922	1,047
RHODE ISLAND						
Supreme Court	447	393	478	402	403	396
SOUTH DAKOTA						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
VERMONT						
Supreme Court	532 B	506	535	527	593	624
WYOMING						
Supreme Court	250	347	327	302	334	363

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TABLE 13: **Mandatory Caseloads in State Appellate Courts**, 1984 - 89. (continued)

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
States with multiple appellate courts at any level						
ALABAMA						
Supreme Court	745	798	827	998	829	908
Court of Civil Appeals	532	548	530	584	529	556
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,400	1,520	1,537	1,695	1,784	2,132
OKLAHOMA						
Supreme Court	789	1,128	788	1,105	8[illegible]	862
Court of Appeals	788	635	971	931	1,362	1,373
PENNSYLVANIA						
Supreme Court	268	142	92	80	121	94
Commonwealth Court	4,012	3,554	3,737 A	3,030 A	3,164 A	3,115 A
Superior Court	5,793 B	5,878 B	5,989 B	6,137 B	6,439 B	6,040 B
TENNESSEE						
Court of Appeals			DATA NOT AVAILABLE			
Court of Criminal Appeals			DATA NOT AVAILABLE			
TEXAS						
Supreme Court	0	1	2	3	3	3
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,959	1,998	2,221	2,450	3,578	3,504
Courts of Appeals	7,386	7,954	7,832	7,857	8,250	8,813

State/Court name:	1984 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes
States with multiple appellate courts at any level						
ALABAMA						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
Court of Civil Appeals	536	516	548	518	576	528
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,480	1,424	1,745	1,819	1,774	1,927
OKLAHOMA						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
Court of Appeals	801	693	856	728	1,215	1,337
PENNSYLVANIA						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
Commonwealth Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
Superior Court	5,908 B	8,355 B	7,410 B	6,253 B	6,410 B	6,218 B
TENNESSEE						
Court of Appeals	1,010	1,010	1,330	1,033	1,015 B	1,015 B
Court of Criminal Appeals	851 B	891 B	946 B	747 B	794 B	794 B
TEXAS						
Supreme Court	0	1	2	3	3	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	2,237	2,084	2,027	2,448	3,546	3,806
Courts of Appeals	8,274	7,981	8,161	7,824	7,984	8,416

Table 13: Mandatory Caseloads in State Appellate Courts, 1984-89. (continued)

COURT TYPE:

COLR = Court of last resort
IAC = Intermediate appellate court

NOTE: NA indicates that the data are unavailable.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that the data are complete.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:
- Arizona--Supreme Court--Data do not include **mandatory judge disciplinary** cases.
- California--Supreme Court--Data do not include judge **disciplinary** cases.
- Oklahoma--Supreme Court--Disposed data for 1984-1986 do not include **mandatory appeals of final judgments, mandatory disciplinary cases and mandatory interlocutory decisions**.
- Pennsylvania--Commonwealth Court--Data for 1986-1989 do not include transfers from the Superior Court and Court of Common Pleas.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Connecticut--Appellate Court--Data for 1984-1986 include a few **discretionary petitions that were granted review.**
- Delaware--Supreme Court--Data include some **discretionary petitions** and filed data include **discretionary petitions that were granted.**
- District of Columbia--Court of Appeals--Data for 1984 and 1985 include **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals.
- Georgia--Supreme Court--Total **mandatory** filed data for 1984-1988 include a few **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals.
  - --Court of Appeals--Total **mandatory** data include all **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals.
- Hawaii--Supreme Court--Data include a few **discretionary petitions granted.**
- Idaho--Supreme Court--Data include **discretionary petitions that were granted.**
- Illinois--Appellate Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions.**
- Indiana--Court of Appeals--Data for 1984-1988 include all **discretionary petitions.**
- Kansas--Court of Appeals--Filed data include a few **discretionary petitions that were granted.** Disposed data include all **discretionary petitions.**
- Louisiana--Supreme Court--Data for 1984 and 1985 include a few **discretionary appeals.**
  - --Courts of Appeal--Data for 1984 and 1985 include refiled **discretionary petitions that were granted review.**
- Maryland--Court of Appeals--Data include **discretionary petitions that were granted,** and refiled as appeals.
- Massachusetts--Appeals Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions.**
- Nebraska--Supreme Court--Data include **discretionary petitions.**
- New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court--Data include all **discretionary petitions that were granted.**
- North Carolina--Court of Appeals--**Mandatory** filed data include a few **discretionary petitions that were granted** and refiled as appeals. Data include some cases where relief, not review, was granted.
- Oregon--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all **discretionary petitions that were granted.**
- Pennsylvania--Superior Court--Data for 1984-89 include all **discretionary petitions disposed that were granted.**
- South Dakota--Supreme Court--Data include **discretionary advisory opinions.**
- Vermont--Supreme Court--Data for 1984 include **discretionary petitions that were granted** and decided.
- Washington--Supreme Court--Data include some **discretionary petitions.**

C: The following courts' data are both incomplete and overinclusive:
- Arkansas--Supreme Court--Data include a few **discretionary petitions,** but do not include **mandatory attorney disciplinary** cases and **certified questions from the federal courts.**

TABLE 14: Discretionary Caseloads in State Appellate Courts, 1984 - 89

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court						
ALASKA						
Supreme Court	221	194	313	219	244	251
Court of Appeals	63	64	83	54	62	62
ARIZONA						
Supreme Court	1,016 B	1,161 B	1,156 B	995 B	1,018 B	1,004 B
Court of Appeals	50	40	49	51	60	52
CALIFORNIA						
Supreme Court	3,991	4,346	4,808	4,558	4,351	4,214
Courts of Appeal	5,838	5,938	6,234	6,732	7,005	6,966
COLORADO						
Supreme Court	813	767	783	756	825	993
FLORIDA						
Supreme Court	1,056	1,175	1,097	1,270	1,316	1,111
District Courts of Appeal	1,970	1,975	2,294	2,282	2,285	2,259
GEORGIA						
Supreme Court	941	975	980	1,006	998	1,101
Court of Appeals	623	641	647	733	717	809
HAWAII						
Supreme Court	32	41	43	57	45	42
IDAHO						
Supreme Court	60	92	77	82	76	91
ILLINOIS						
Supreme Court	1,675	1,579	1,637	1,673	1,558	1,558
KENTUCKY						
Supreme Court	986	813	847	693 A	686 A	748 A
Court of Appeals	79	96	94	90	92	89
LOUISIANA						
Supreme Court	2,126 A	2,313 A	2,455	2,673	2,657	2,776
Courts of Appeal	1,842	2,538	3,016	3,541	3,877	4,189
MARYLAND						
Court of Appeals	761	713	607	655	682	598
Court of Special Appeals	308	192	240	294	220	230
MASSACHUSETTS						
Supreme Judicial Court	1,246	1,336	1,473	336	563	592

State/Court name:	1984 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes
States with one court of last resort and one intermediate appellate court						
ALASKA						
Supreme Court	220	197	290	231	255	243
Court of Appeals	77	54	99	54	66	56
ARIZONA						
Supreme Court	1,048 B	1,078 B	1,156 B	1,054 B	905 B	995 B
Court of Appeals	59	45	48	45	63	53
CALIFORNIA						
Supreme Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
Courts of Appeal	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
COLORADO						
Supreme Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
FLORIDA						
Supreme Court	1,060	1,123	1,260	1,223	1,426	965
District Courts of Appeal	1,669	1,683	1,751	1,887	1,839	1,893
GEORGIA						
Supreme Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
Court of Appeals	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
HAWAII						
Supreme Court	35	39	45	58	42	45
IDAHO						
Supreme Court	55	99	71	76	84	88
ILLINOIS						
Supreme Court	1,715	1,673	1,622	1,633	1,482	1,484
KENTUCKY						
Supreme Court	793	1,044	898	706 A	678 A	640 A
Court of Appeals	73	87	107	71	77	89
LOUISIANA						
Supreme Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
Courts of Appeal	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					
MARYLAND						
Court of Appeals	785	678	700	562	776	543
Court of Special Appeals	308	192	185	294	220	230
MASSACHUSETTS						
Supreme Judicial Court	DATA NOT AVAILABLE					

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TABLE 14: Discretionary Caseloads in State Appellate Courts, 1984 - 89. (continued)

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
MICHIGAN						
Supreme Court	2,347	2,069	2,042	2,082	2,662	2,805
MISSOURI						
Supreme Court	846	981	989	1,033	1,056	857
NEW JERSEY						
Supreme Court	1,142 A	1,053 A	1,382 A	1,382 A	1,354 A	1,482 A
NEW MEXICO						
Supreme Court	174	155	202	350	295	366
Court of Appeals	57	68	52	57	64	44
NORTH CAROLINA						
Supreme Court	541	620	735	676	636	447
Court of Appeals	471	484	546	483	446	385
OHIO						
Supreme Court	1,704	1,644	1,733	1,846	1,770	1,686
OREGON						
Supreme Court	870	903	990	1,086	857	709
UTAH						
Supreme Court	72	42	51	30	61	36
VIRGINIA						
Supreme Court	1,915	1,043	1,193	1,441	1,439	1,573
WASHINGTON						
Supreme Court	881 C	906 C	897 C	1,151 C	947 A	821 A
Court of Appeals	263	320	371	346	372	318
WISCONSIN						
Supreme Court	718	761	836	869	915	896
Court of Appeals	245	228	241	221	228	191
States with no intermediate appellate court						
DELAWARE						
Supreme Court	5 A	3 A	3 A	4 A	4 A	6 A
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Court of Appeals	85	81	76	96	61	49
MISSISSIPPI						
Supreme Court	2	4	3	2	0	0

State/Court name:	1984 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes
MICHIGAN						
Supreme Court	2,495 B	2,314 B	2,397 B	2,168 B	2,254 B	2,453 B
MISSOURI						
Supreme Court	812 A	980 A	953 A	997 A	1,064	871
NEW JERSEY						
Supreme Court	1,075 A	1,025 A	1,378 A	1,411 A	1,398 A	1,472 A
NEW MEXICO						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
Court of Appeals		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
NORTH CAROLINA						
Supreme Court	465	665	748	637	727	397
Court of Appeals	423	462	530	483	446	385
OHIO						
Supreme Court	1,293	1,428	1,532	1,598	1,621	1,372
OREGON						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
UTAH						
Supreme Court		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
VIRGINIA						
Supreme Court	1,919	1,321	1,095	1,169	1,655	1,800 A
WASHINGTON						
Supreme Court	905 C	907 C	786 C	1,093 C	1,060 A	829 A
Court of Appeals	270	283	317	388	388	305
WISCONSIN						
Supreme Court	721 B	699	765	725	866	802
Court of Appeals	209	228	241	188	162	148
States with no intermediate appellate court						
DELAWARE						
Supreme Court	5 A	2 A	3 A	4 A	3 A	5 A
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Court of Appeals		DATA NOT AVAILABLE				
MISSISSIPPI						
Supreme Court	2	4	3	2	0	0

(continued on next page)

TABLE 14: Discretionary Caseloads in State Appellate Courts, 1984 - 89. (continued)

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
Supreme Court	603 A	574 A	534 A	516 A	504	567
RHODE ISLAND						
Supreme Court	202	288	168	219	189	179
SOUTH DAKOTA						
Supreme Court	27 A	17 A	32 A	27 A	35 A	39 A
VERMONT						
Supreme Court	25	19	24	31	32	34
WEST VIRGINIA						
Supreme Court of Appeals	1,282	1,372	1,585	2,037	1,621	1,644
States with multiple appellate courts at any level						
ALABAMA						
Supreme Court	712	606	763	713	765	806
OKLAHOMA						
Supreme Court	388	295	340	293	295	443
TEXAS						
Supreme Court	1,130	1,169	1,228	1,176	1,243	1,126
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,281	1,360	1,360	1,339	1,416	1,792

State/Court name:	1984 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of dispositions and qualifying footnotes
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
Supreme Court	550 A	602 A	415 A	451 A	543	532
RHODE ISLAND						
Supreme Court	218	219	199	241	178	169
SOUTH DAKOTA						
Supreme Court			DATA NOT AVAILABLE			
VERMONT						
Supreme Court	26	20	21	26	32	35
WEST VIRGINIA						
Supreme Court of Appeals	1,124	1,268	1,396	1,909	1,775	1,735
States with multiple appellate courts at any level						
ALABAMA						
Supreme Court			DATA NOT AVAILABLE			
OKLAHOMA						
Supreme Court			DATA NOT AVAILABLE			
TEXAS						
Supreme Court	1,034	1,187	1,166	1,261	1,168	1,096
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,081	1,046	1,100	1,672	1,437	2,107

Table 14: Discretionary Caseloads in State Appellate Courts, 1984-89. (continued)

COURT TYPE:

COLR = Court of last resort
IAC = Intermediate appellate court

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that the data are complete.

A: The following court's data are incomplete:
  - Delaware--Supreme Court--Data do not include some **discretionary interlocutory decision** cases, which are reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.
  - Kentucky--Supreme Court--Data for 1987, 1988 and 1989 do not include some **discretionary unclassified petitions.**
  - Louisiana--Supreme Court--Data for 1984 and 1985 do not include some **discretionary petitions** that are reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** caseload.
  - Missouri--Supreme Court--Disposed data for 1984-1987 do not include a few original proceedings.
  - New Hampshire--Supreme Court--Data for 1984-1987 include **discretionary judge disciplinary cases.**
  - New Jersey--Supreme Court--Data do not include **discretionary interlocutory decisions.**
  - South Dakota--Supreme Court--Data do not include **advisory opinions** that are reported with mandatory jurisdiction cases.
  - Washington--Supreme Court--Data do not include some discretionary cases which are reported with **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
  - Arizona--Supreme Court--Data include **mandatory judge disciplinary cases.**
  - Michigan--Supreme Court--Disposed data include a few **mandatory jursidiction cases.**
  - Wisconsin--Supreme Court--Data for 1984 include all disposed **mandatory jurisdiction** cases.

C: The following courts data are both incomplete and overinclusive:
  - Washington--Supreme Court--Data for 1984-1987 include **mandatory certified questions** from the **federal courts,** but do not include some **discretionary petitions.**

TABLE 15: Felony Caseloads in State Trial Courts, 1984-89

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
			General jurisdiction courts			
ARIZONA						
Superior	15,360	17,295	20,653	21,444	22,176	23,981
ARKANSAS						
Circuit	17,993 B	21,425 B	21,944 B	24,805 B	22,110 B	24,842 B
CALIFORNIA						
Superior	74,412 B	82,372 B	94,779 B	104,906 B	115,595 B	132,486 C
COLORADO						
District	14,783	15,804	16,087	16,223	17,391	19,284
CONNECTICUT						
Superior*	3,879	4,179	4,512	4,985	6,204	6,194
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Superior	10,583	12,399	16,207	19,986	21,472	21,332
GEORGIA						
Superior	33,725	36,182	37,146	45,104	53,984	63,977
HAWAII						
Circuit*	2,969 C	2,878 C	2,842 C	2,766 C	2,909 C	3,115 C
ILLINOIS						
Circuit	46,107 B	45,925 B	47,075 B	46,342 B	58,289 B	69,114 B
INDIANA						
Superior and Circuit*	13,619 B	14,894 B	18,436 B	19,804 B	21,313 B	26,358 B
IOWA						
District	7,658 B	7,970 B	7,692 B	8,230 B	8,666 B	10,481 B
KANSAS						
District	11,397	10,470	11,106	11,500	12,188	12,631
KENTUCKY						
Circuit	13,961 B	13,439 B	13,380 B	13,500 B	12,518 B	14,411 B
MAINE						
Superior	3,189	3,656	3,583	3,612	3,657	4,142
MINNESOTA						
District	17,643	19,119	19,707	21,834	24,116	24,116

(continued on next page)

TABLE 15: Felony Caseloads in State Trial Courts, 1984-89. (continued)

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
MISSOURI	30,305 B	30,494 B	32,796 B	34,971 B	36,965 B	39,952 B
Circuit						
MONTANA	2,378 C	2,574 C	2,591 C	2,443 C	2,726 C	2,710 C
District						
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
Superior	3,813	4,198	4,857	5,527	6,079	6,599
NEW JERSEY						
Superior	37,135	37,784	38,443	41,198	43,837	53,215
NEW YORK						
Supreme and County*	49,191 B	51,034 B	56,356 B	62,940 B	67,177 B	79,025 B
NORTH CAROLINA						
Superior	42,160	40,915	44,980	51,210	55,284	62,752
NORTH DAKOTA						
District	1,284 B	1,312 B	1,390 B	1,487 B	1,497 B	1,444 B
OHIO						
Court of Common Pleas	37,073	36,249	38,374	39,376	43,613	51,959
OKLAHOMA						
District	24,178 B	24,673 B	25,782 B	26,438 B	25,997 B	26,482 B
OREGON						
Circuit	19,913	20,682	22,533	24,591	26,859	27,248
PUERTO RICO						
Superior	14,511 B	15,516 B	20,073 B	20,314 B	21,532 B	21,548 B
RHODE ISLAND						
Superior	4,232	4,780	4,360	4,278	6,685	6,740
SOUTH DAKOTA						
Circuit	2,606	3,088	3,182	3,275	3,257	3,388
TEXAS						
District	87,249	93,968	111,331	119,395	122,903 B	139,611 B
VERMONT						
District	1,837	1,897	2,177	2,111	2,115	1,993
Superior	8	6	1	85	112	138
VIRGINIA						
Circuit	42,642	43,096	45,646	49,481	53,445	63,304

(continued on next page)

TABLE 15: Felony Caseloads in State Trial Courts, 1984-89. (continued)

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
WASHINGTON	15,432	17,885	19,693	21,071	25,476	28,121
Superior						
WEST VIRGINIA	4,879 B	5,062 B	4,697 B	5,070 B	4,420 B	4,121 B
Circuit						
WISCONSIN	13,607	14,549	14,470	13,802	14,484	17,625
Circuit						
WYOMING						
District	1,462	1,468	1,466	1,353	1,480	1,591
			Limited jurisdiction courts			
CALIFORNIA						
Justice	10,165 B	10,700 B	10,571 B	11,640 B	12,076 B	11,628 C
CALIFORNIA						
Municipal	133,315 B	145,133 B	163,959 B	185,995 B	197,176 B	210,615 B
DELAWARE						
Court of Common Pleas	656 A	520 A	726 A	819 A	804 A	787 A
HAWAII						
District	381	230	256	235	229	409
INDIANA						
County	7,442 B	8,623 B	8,437 B	8,271 B	7,602 B	7,261 B
MICHIGAN						
District	14,194 A	15,782 A	18,568	20,445	20,036	22,029
OHIO						
County	856	1,199	1,048	1,139	1,112	1,278
Municipal	17,354	16,561	18,371	20,222	23,643	31,475

TABLE 15: Felony caseloads in state trial courts, 1984-1989. (continued)

COURT TYPE:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

NOTE: The footnoting scheme has been consolidated. Footnotes for 1984-1987 have been translated into the footnote scheme for 1988 and 1989.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:
- Delaware--Court of Common Pleas--Felony data do not include most cases that are reported with preliminary hearings.
- Michigan--District Court--Felony data do not include cases from several courts.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Arkansas--Circuit Court--Felony data include DWI/DUI cases.
- California--Superior Court--Felony data for 1984-1988 include DWI/DUI cases.
  - --Justice Court--Felony data for 1984-1988 include preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers.
  - --Municipal Court--Felony data include preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers.
- Illinois--Circuit Court--Felony data include preliminary hearings for courts "downstate."
- Indiana--Superior and Circuit Courts--Felony data include DWI/DUI cases.
  - --County Court--Felony data include DWI/DUI cases.
- Iowa--District Court--Felony data include third-offense DWI/DUI cases.
- Kentucky--Circuit Court--Felony data include misdemeanor cases, sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.
- Missouri--Circuit Court--Felony data include some DWI/DUI cases.
- New York--Supreme and County Courts--Felony data include DWI/DUI cases.
- North Dakota--District Court--Felony data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.
- Oklahoma--District Court--Felony data include some miscellaneous criminal cases.
- Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Felony data include appeals.
- Texas--District Court--Felony data include some other proceedings (e.g., motions to revoke).
- West Virginia--Circuit Court--Felony data include DWI/DUI cases.

C: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:
- California--Superior Court--Felony data for 1989 include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include partial year data from several courts.
  - --Justice Court--Felony data for 1989 include preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers, but do not include partial year data from several courts.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Felony data include misdemeanor cases, but do not include reopened prior cases.
- Montana--District Court--Felony data include some trial court civil appeals, but do not include some cases reported with unclassified criminal data.

* Additional information:
- Connecticut--Superior Court--Figures for felony filings do not match those reported in the 1984, 1985, and 1986 State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Reports. Felony filings have been adjusted to include only triable felonies so as to be comparable to 1987, 1988, and 1989 data.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Figures for felony filings do not match those reported in the 1984, 1985, and 1986 State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Reports. Misdemeanor cases have been included to allow comparability with 1987, 1988, and 1989 data.
- Indiana--Superior and Circuit Courts--County Court--1985-1989 data are not comparable with previous years' figures due to changes in classification of County Court function.
- New York--Supreme and County Courts--These courts experienced a significant increase in the number of filings due to the change to an individual calendaring system in 1986.

TABLE 16: Tort Caseloads in State Trial Courts, 1984 - 89

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
General jurisdiction courts						
ALASKA						
Superior	NC	2,096	2,344	1,664	937	851
ARIZONA						
Superior	9,173	10,748	11,888	12,260	20,490	12,559
CALIFORNIA						
Superior	97,068	112,049	130,206	137,455	132,378	131,900 A
COLORADO						
District	4,199	4,537	5,145	3,666	4,506	5,409
FLORIDA						
Circuit*	26,815 A	29,864 A	34,027 A	33,622 A	34,325 A	36,606 A
HAWAII						
Circuit	1,611 A	1,676 A	1,749 A	1,785 A	1,736 A	1,793 A
IDAHO						
District	1,729 A	2,010 A	2,118 A	1,757 A	1,453 A	1,478 A
KANSAS						
District	4,033	4,061	4,273	4,380	4,595	4,513
MAINE						
Superior	2,083	2,072	2,044	1,786	1,776	1,950
MARYLAND						
Circuit	10,826 A	10,120 A	12,373 A	12,938 A	14,170 A	14,274 A
MICHIGAN						
Circuit	23,186 A	22,811	32,612	29,756	30,966	32,663
MONTANA						
District	1,640	1,870	1,836	1,792	1,541	1,613
NEW JERSEY						
Superior	41,722 A	42,141 A	45,547 A	46,671 A	56,186 A	58,193 A
NEW YORK						
Supreme and County	37,847	35,549	32,011	34,249	30,709	62,189
NORTH DAKOTA						
District	550	512	561	551	552	602

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TABLE 16: Tort Caseloads in State Trial Courts, 1984 - 89. (continued)

State/Court name:	1984 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1985 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1987 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1988 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1989 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes
OHIO						
Court of Common Pleas	22,149	25,518	28,225	29,375	28,614	29,039
PUERTO RICO						
Superior	3,968 B	4,388 B	4,558 B	4,811 B	4,077 B	5,579 B
TEXAS						
District	34,224	37,596	38,238	40,764	36,597	36,710
UTAH						
District	1,433 B	1,245 B	2,527 B	1,335 B	1,404 B	1,233 B
WASHINGTON						
Superior	8,997	9,747	19,515	8,007	8,746	10,146
			Limited jurisdiction courts			
ALASKA						
District	NC	860 A	4,069 A	1,071 A	445 A	474 A
HAWAII						
District	693	652	738	937	781	870
OHIO						
County	519	464	463	406	410	528
Municipal	13,503	12,992	13,999	15,505	15,373	15,078
PUERTO RICO						
District	1,550 B	1,579 B	1,779 B	1,729 B	1,860 B	2,010 B
TEXAS						
County-Level	7,143	8,242	9,833	11,314	12,188	11,437

TABLE 16: Tort Caseloads in State Trial Courts, 1984-89. (continued)

NOTE: The footnoting scheme has been consolidated. Footnotes for 1984-1987 have been translated into the footnote scheme for 1988 and 1989.

COURT TYPE:
G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

NC: The following courts' data are not comparable:
Alaska–Superior Court–District Court–The 1984 data are not comparable to the 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1989 data because torts are separated from the unclassified civil figure in significantly greater quantities during 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1989 than in previous years.

A: The following courts' data are incomplete:
Alaska–District Court–Data do not include filings in the low volume District Courts, which are reported with unclassified civil cases.
California–Superior Court–Tort data for 1989 do not include partial data from several courts.
Florida--Circuit Court–Data do not include professional tort cases reported with other civil cases.
Hawaii–Circuit Court–Data do not include a small number of District Court transfers reported with other civil cases.
Idaho--District Court--Data do not include some filings reported with unclassified civil cases. The unclassified figures for 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1989 respectively are: 20,365, 20,644, 21,281, 22,202, 24,226, and 25,410.
Maryland--Circuit Court–Data do not include some filings reported with unclassified civil cases. The unclassified figures for 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1989 respectively are: 827, 1,438, 976, 1,829, 1,761, and 1,816.
Michigan–Circuit Court--Tort filings are unavailable in 1984 for Hillsdale County, Osceola County, Kalkaska County, and Delta County.
New Jersey–Superior Court–Data do not include some torts reported with unclassified civil cases. The unit of count for civil cases changed for 1989, but tort data were adjusted using the unit of count from previous years so data are comparable.

B: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
Puerto Rico–Superior Court–Tort data include appeals.
–District Court--Tort data include appeals.
Utah–District Court--Tort filings include de novo appeals from the Justice of the Peace Courts.

* Additional court information:
Colorado–District and Denver Superior Courts--The Denver Superior Court was abolished 11/14/86 and the caseload absorbed by the District Court.
Florida--Circuit Court–Figures for tort filings do not match those reported in the 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1989 State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Reports. Professional tort cases have been removed so as to be comparable to 1984 and 1985 data.

PART 4

1989 STATE COURT STRUCTURE CHARTS

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An Explanatory Note

The court structure charts summarize in a one-page diagram the key features of each state's court organization. The format meets two objectives: (1) it is comprehensive, indicating all court systems in the state and their interrelationships; and (2) it describes the jurisdiction of the court systems, using a comparable set of terminology and symbols. The court structure charts employ the common terminology developed by the NCSC's Court Statistics Project for reporting caseload statistics.

The first chart is a prototype. It represents a state court organization in which there is one of each of the four court system levels recognized by the Court Statistics Project: courts of last resort, intermediate appellate courts, general jurisdiction trial courts, and limited jurisdiction trial courts. Routes of appeal from one court to another are indicated by lines, with an arrow showing which court receives the appeal or petition.

The charts also provide basic descriptive information, such as the number of authorized justices, judges, and magistrates (or other judicial officers). Each court system's subject matter jurisdiction is indicated using the Court Statistics Project case types. Information is also provided on the use of districts, circuits, or divisions in organizing the courts within the system and the number of courts, where this coincides with a basic government unit.

The case types, which define a court system's subject matter jurisdiction, require the most explanation. This is done separately for appellate and trial court systems.

Appellate Courts

The rectangle representing each appellate court contains information on the number of authorized justices; the number of geographic divisions, if any, that are maintained; whether court decisions are made en banc, in panels, or both; and the Court Statistics Project case types that are heard by the court. The case types are shown separately for mandatory and discretionary cases. The case types themselves are defined in other Court Statistics Project publications, especially *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting* and *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary: 1989 Edition.*

An appellate court can have both mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction over the same Court Statistics Project case type. This arises, in part, because the Court Statistics Project case types are defined broadly in order to be applicable to every state's courts. There are, for example, only two appellate Court Statistics Project case types for criminal appeals: capital and noncapital. A court may have mandatory jurisdiction over felony cases, but discretionary jurisdiction over misdemeanors. The listing of case types would include "criminal" for both mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction. The duplication of a case type under both headings can also occur if appeals from one lower court for that case type are mandatory, while appeals from another lower court are discretionary. Also, statutory provisions or court rules in some states automatically convert a mandatory appeal into a discretionary petition—for example, when an appeal is not filed within a specified time limit. A more comprehensive description of each appellate court's subject matter jurisdiction can be found in the *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting.*

Trial Courts

The rectangle representing each trial court also lists the applicable Court Statistics Project case types. These include civil, criminal, traffic/other violation, and juvenile. Where a case type is simply listed, it means that the court system shares jurisdiction over it with other courts. The presence of exclusive jurisdiction is always explicitly stated. The absence of a case type from a list means that the court does not have that subject matter jurisdiction. The dollar amount jurisdiction is shown where there is an upper or a lower limit to the cases that can be filed in a court. A dollar limit is not listed if a court does not have a minimum or maximum dollar jurisdiction for general civil cases. In criminal cases, jurisdiction is distinguished between "triable felony," where the court can try a felony case to verdict and sentencing, and "limited felony," which applies to those limited jurisdiction courts that can conduct preliminary hearings that bind a defendant over for trial in a higher court.

Trial courts can have what is termed incidental appellate jurisdiction. The presence of such jurisdiction over the decisions of other courts is noted in the list of case types as either "civil appeals," "criminal appeals," or "administrative agency appeals." A trial court that hears appeals directly from an administrative agency has an "A" in the upper right corner of the rectangle.

For each trial court, the chart states the authorized number of judges and whether the court can empanel a jury. The rectangle representing the court also indicates the number of districts, divisions, or circuits into which the court system is divided. These subdivisions are stated using the court system's own terminology. The descriptions, therefore, are not standardized across states or court systems.

Trial courts are differentiated into those that are totally funded from local sources and those that receive some form of state funds. Locally funded court systems are drawn with broken lines. A solid line indicates some or all of the funding is derived from state funds.

Symbols and Abbreviations

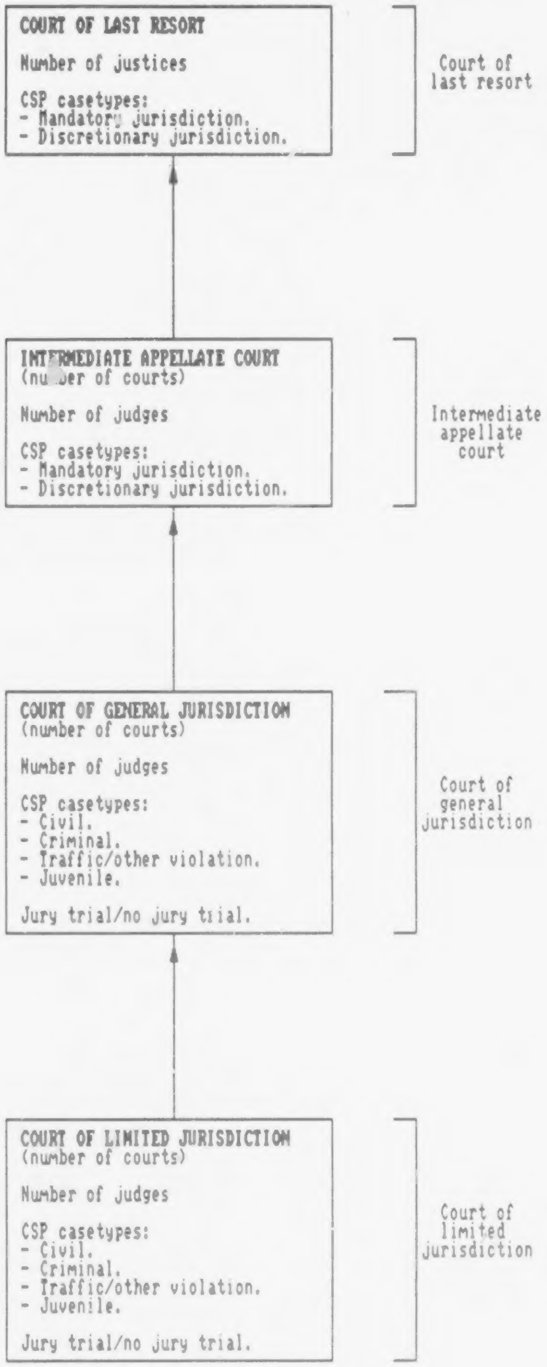
An "A" in the upper right corner of a rectangle, representing either an appellate or a trial court, indicates that the court receives appeals directly from the decisions of an administrative agency. Where "administrative agency appeals" is listed as a case type, it indicates that the court hears appeals from decisions of another court on an administrative agency's actions. It is possible for a court to have both an "A" designation and to have "administrative agency appeals" listed as a case type. Such a court hears appeals directly from an administrative agency ("A") and has appellate jurisdiction over the decisions of a lower court that has already reviewed the decision of the administrative agency.

The number of justices or judges is sometimes stated as "FTE." This represents "full time equivalent" authorized judicial positions. "DWI/DUI" stands for "driving while intoxicated/driving under the influence." The abbreviation, "SC", stands for "small claims." The dollar amount jurisdiction for civil cases is indicated in parentheses with a dollar sign. Where the small claims dollar amount jurisdiction is different, it is noted.

Conclusion

The court structure charts are convenient summaries. They do not substitute for the detailed descriptive material contained in *State Court Organization, 1987,* another Court Statistics Project publication. Moreover, they are based on the Court Statistics Project's terminology and categories. This means that a state may have established courts that are not included in these charts. Some states have courts of special jurisdiction to receive complaints on matters that are more typically directed to administrative boards and agencies. Since these courts receive cases that do not fall within the Court Statistics Project case types, they are not included in the charts. The existence of such courts, however, is recognized in a footnote to the state's court structure chart.

STATE COURT STRUCTURE PROTOTYPE, 1989



COURT OF LAST RESORT

Number of justices

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction.

Court of last resort

INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT
(number of courts)

Number of judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

COURT OF GENERAL JURISDICTION
(number of courts)

Number of judges

CSP casetypes:
- Civil.
- Criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trial/no jury trial.

Court of general jurisdiction

COURT OF LIMITED JURISDICTION
(number of courts)

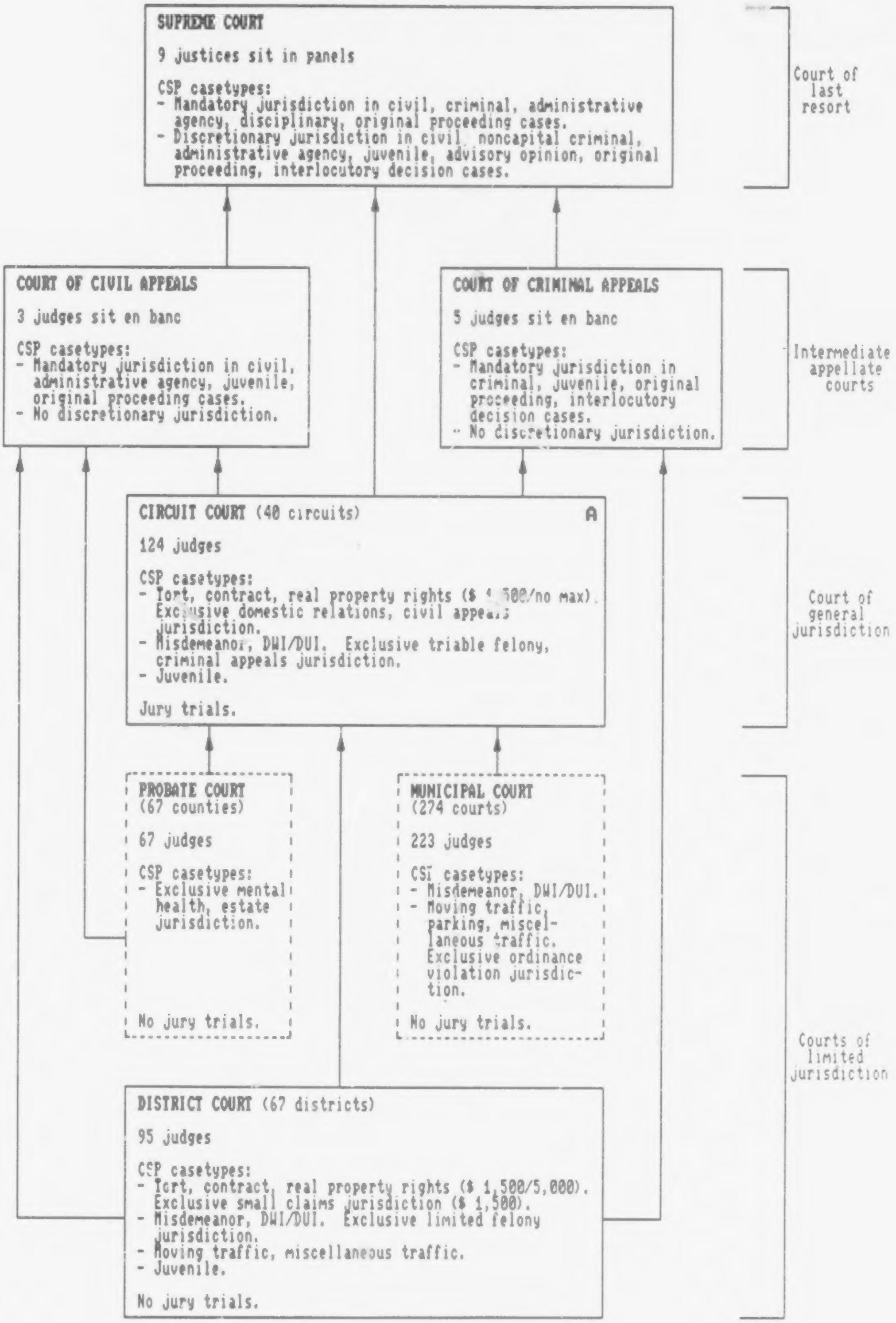
Number of judges

CSP casetypes:
- Civil.
- Criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trial/no jury trial.

Court of limited jurisdiction

ALABAMA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate courts
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
A

SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

5 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

CIRCUIT COURT (40 circuits)

124 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 1,500/no max). Exclusive domestic relations, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT
(67 counties)

67 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive mental health, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(274 courts)

223 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

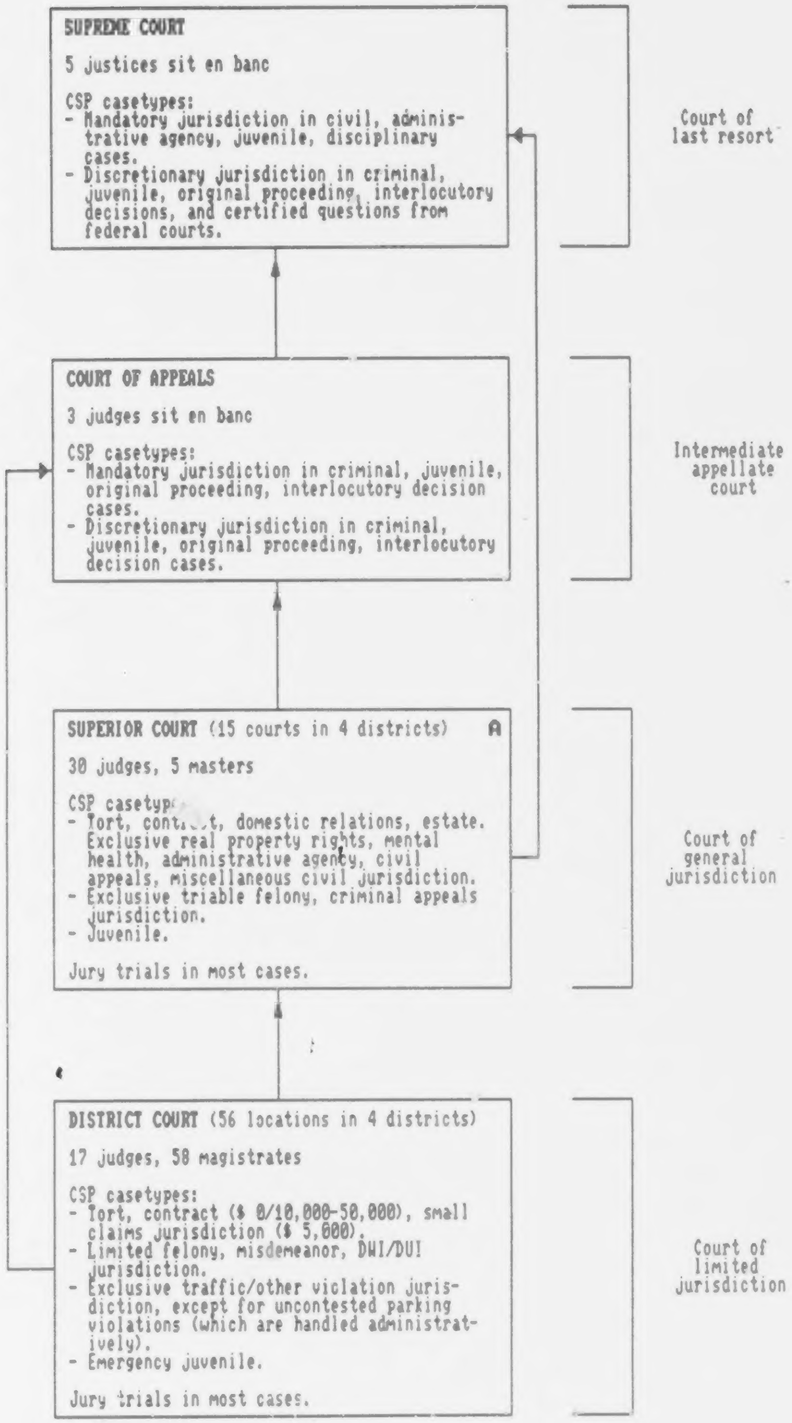
DISTRICT COURT (67 districts)

95 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 1,500/5,000). Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

ALASKA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decisions, and certified questions from federal courts.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (15 courts in 4 districts) A

30 judges, 5 masters

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, domestic relations, estate. Exclusive real property rights, mental health, administrative agency, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (56 locations in 4 districts)

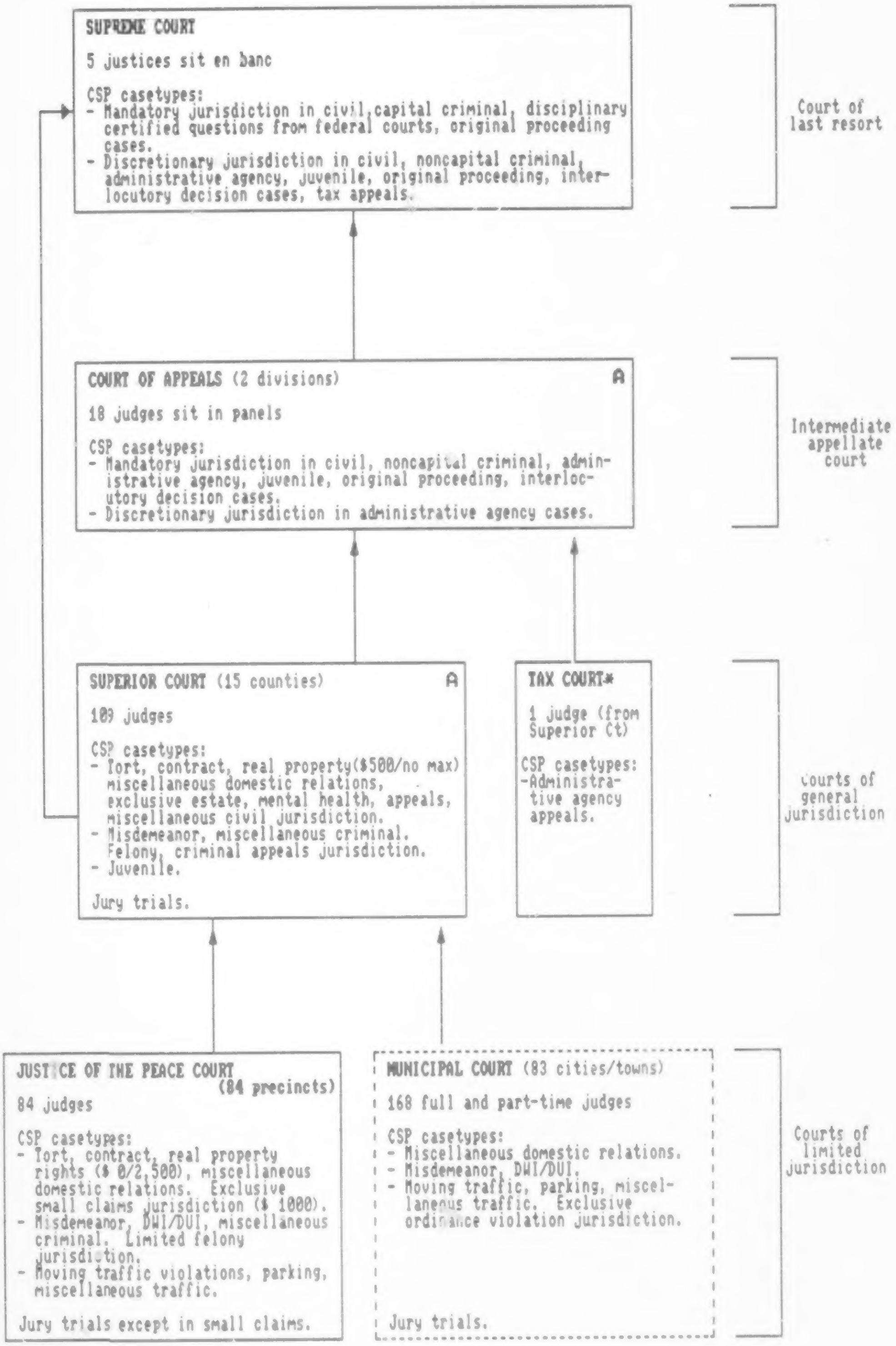
17 judges, 58 magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/10,000-50,000), small claims jurisdiction ($ 5,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for uncontested parking violations (which are handled administratively).
- Emergency juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of limited jurisdiction

ARIZONA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, capital criminal, disciplinary certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases, tax appeals.

COURT OF APPEALS (2 divisions) A

18 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency cases.

SUPERIOR COURT (15 counties) A

109 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property($500/no max) miscellaneous domestic relations, exclusive estate, mental health, appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

TAX COURT*

1 judge (from Superior Ct)

CSP casetypes:
- Administrative agency appeals.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT (84 precincts)

84 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), miscellaneous domestic relations. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 1000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic violations, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (83 cities/towns)

168 full and part-time judges

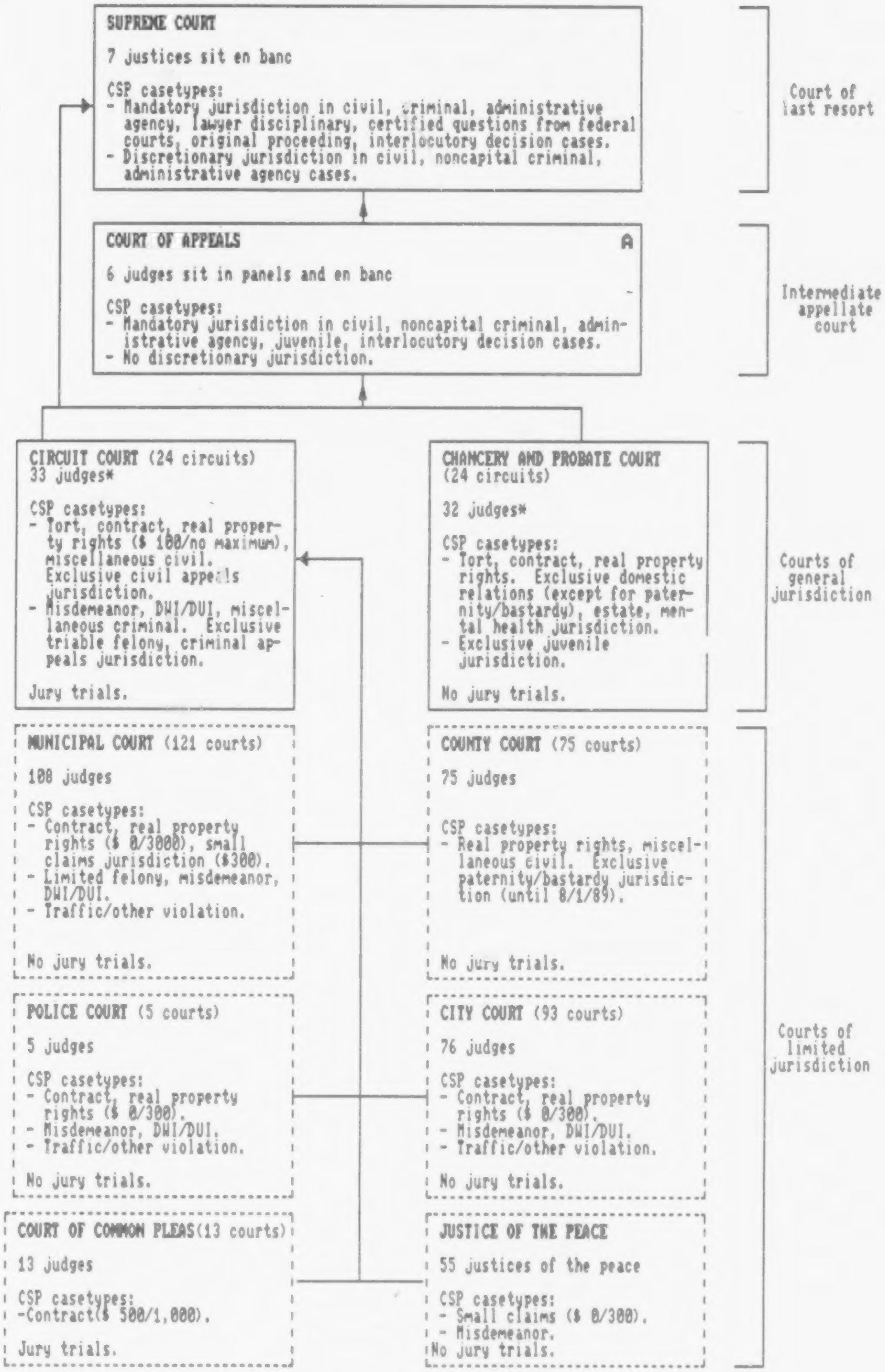
CSP casetypes:
- Miscellaneous domestic relations.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

* The Tax Court was created in September, 1988.

ARKANSAS COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

6 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (24 circuits)
33 judges*

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 100/no maximum), miscellaneous civil. Exclusive civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

CHANCERY AND PROBATE COURT
(24 circuits)

32 judges*

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations (except for paternity/bastardy), estate, mental health jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (121 courts)

108 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Contract, real property rights ($ 0/3000), small claims jurisdiction ($300).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (75 courts)

75 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive paternity/bastardy jurisdiction (until 8/1/89).

No jury trials.

POLICE COURT (5 courts)

5 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Contract, real property rights ($ 0/300).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

CITY COURT (93 courts)

76 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Contract, real property rights ($ 0/300).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (13 courts)

13 judges

CSP casetypes:
-Contract($ 500/1,000).

Jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

55 justices of the peace

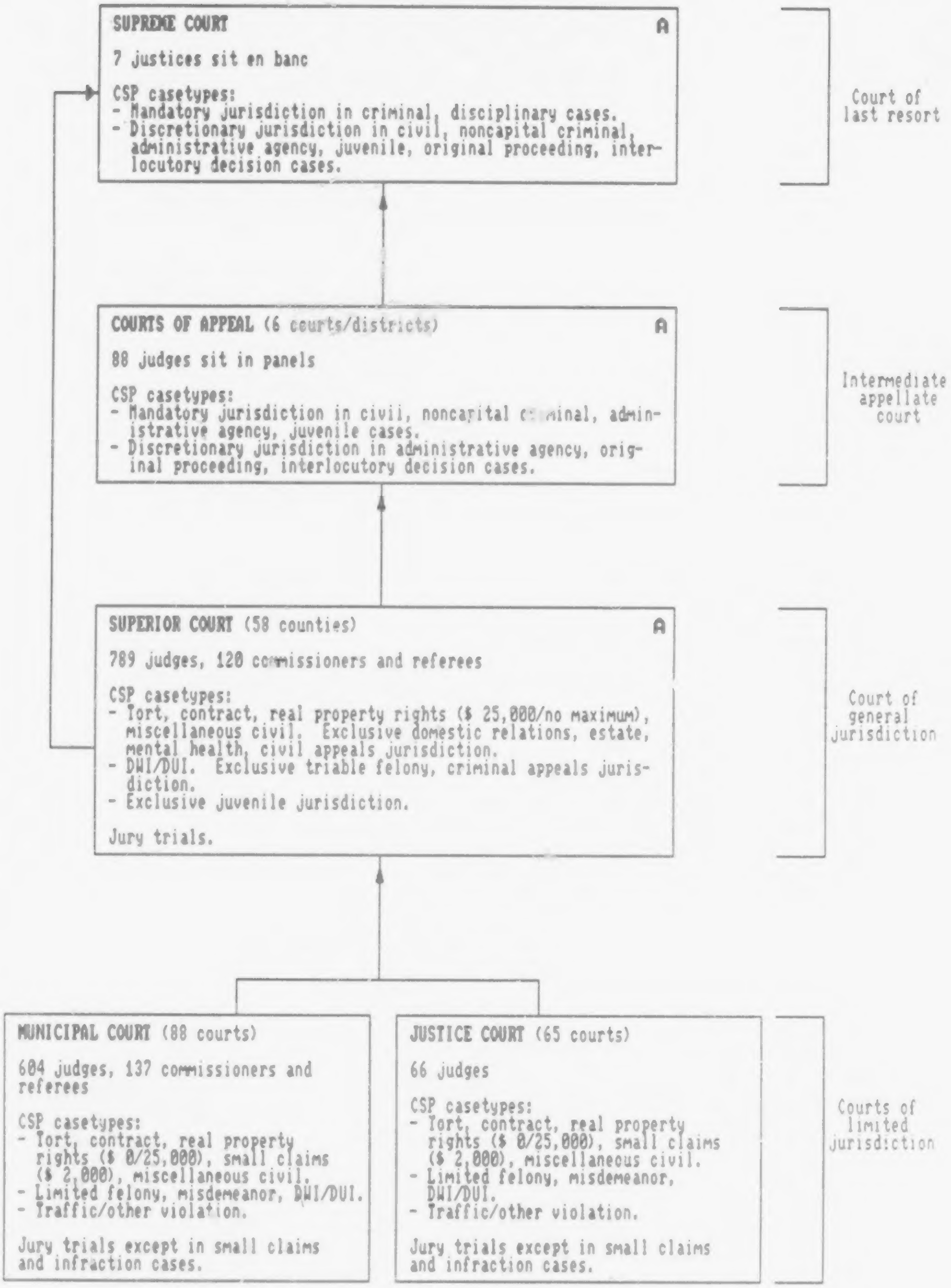
CSP casetypes:
- Small claims ($ 0/300).
- Misdemeanor.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* Thirty additional judges serve both Circuit and Chancery Courts.

CALIFORNIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURTS OF APPEAL (6 courts/districts) A

88 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (58 counties) A

789 judges, 120 commissioners and referees

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 25,000/no maximum), miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (88 courts)

604 judges, 137 commissioners and referees

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/25,000), small claims ($ 2,000), miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials except in small claims and infraction cases.

JUSTICE COURT (65 courts)

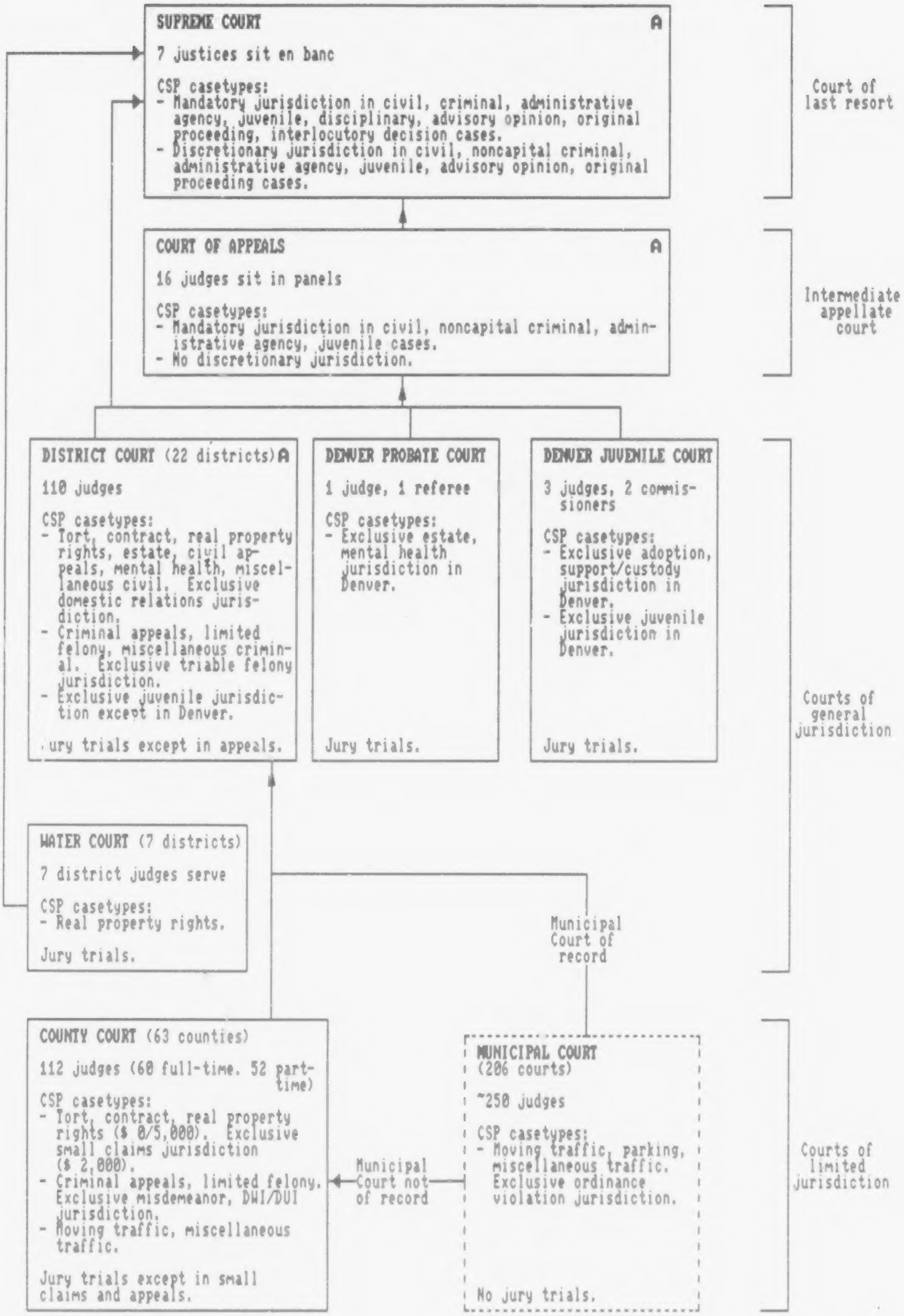
66 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/25,000), small claims ($ 2,000), miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials except in small claims and infraction cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

COLORADO COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinion, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF APPEALS A

16 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

DISTRICT COURT (22 districts) A

110 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate, civil appeals, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Criminal appeals, limited felony, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction except in Denver.

Jury trials except in appeals.

DENVER PROBATE COURT

1 judge, 1 referee

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive estate, mental health jurisdiction in Denver.

Jury trials.

DENVER JUVENILE COURT

3 judges, 2 commissioners

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive adoption, support/custody jurisdiction in Denver.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction in Denver.

Jury trials.

WATER COURT (7 districts)

7 district judges serve

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (63 counties)

112 judges (60 full-time. 52 part-time)

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/5,000). Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Criminal appeals, limited felony. Exclusive misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials except in small claims and appeals.

MUNICIPAL COURT (206 courts)

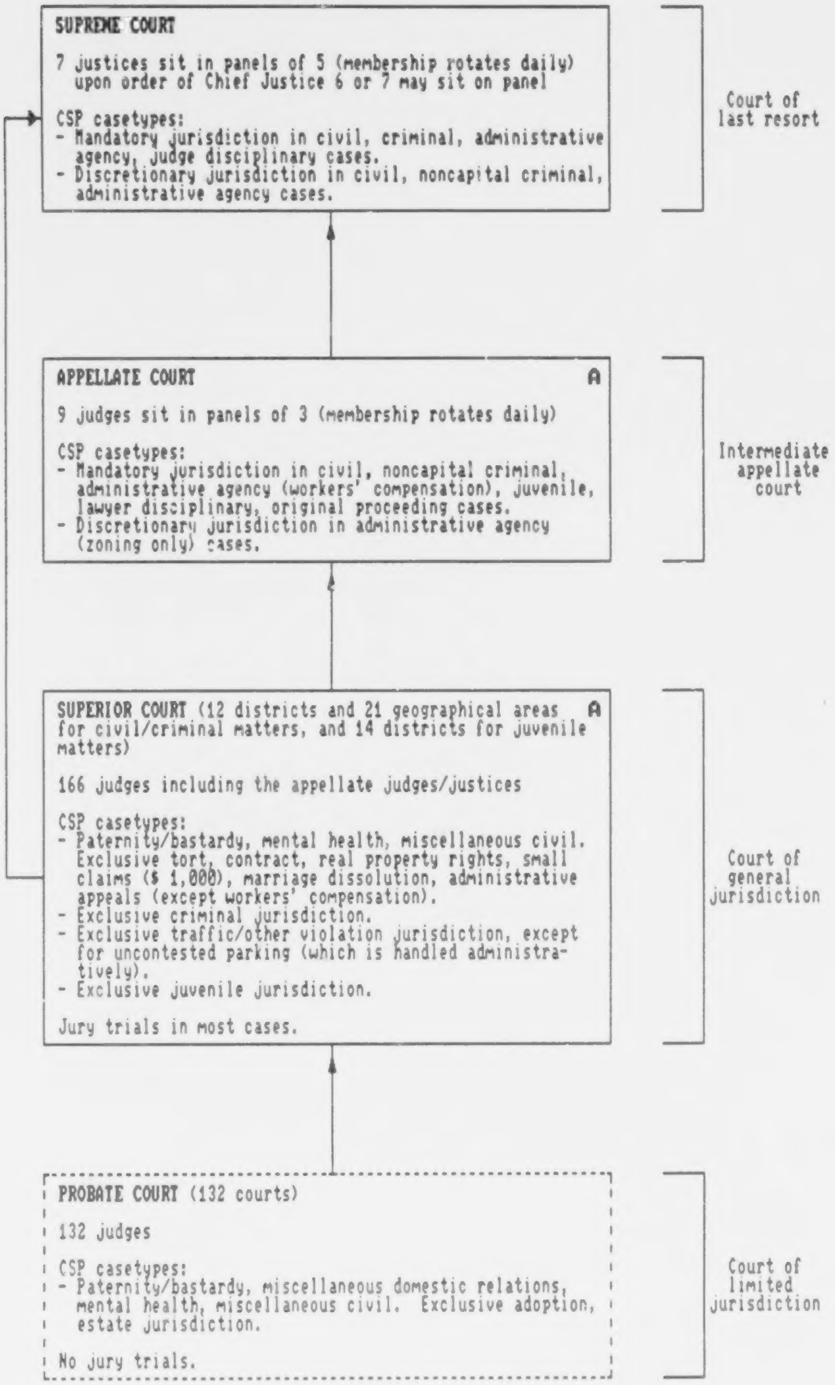
~250 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Courts of general jurisdiction
Municipal Court of record
Municipal Court not of record
Courts of limited jurisdiction

CONNECTICUT COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit in panels of 5 (membership rotates daily) upon order of Chief Justice 6 or 7 may sit on panel

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, judge disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency cases.

Court of last resort

APPELLATE COURT A

9 judges sit in panels of 3 (membership rotates daily)

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency (workers' compensation), juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency (zoning only) cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (12 districts and 21 geographical areas for civil/criminal matters, and 14 districts for juvenile matters) A

166 judges including the appellate judges/justices

CSP casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive tort, contract, real property rights, small claims ($ 1,000), marriage dissolution, administrative appeals (except workers' compensation).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for uncontested parking (which is handled administratively).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

PROBATE COURT (132 courts)

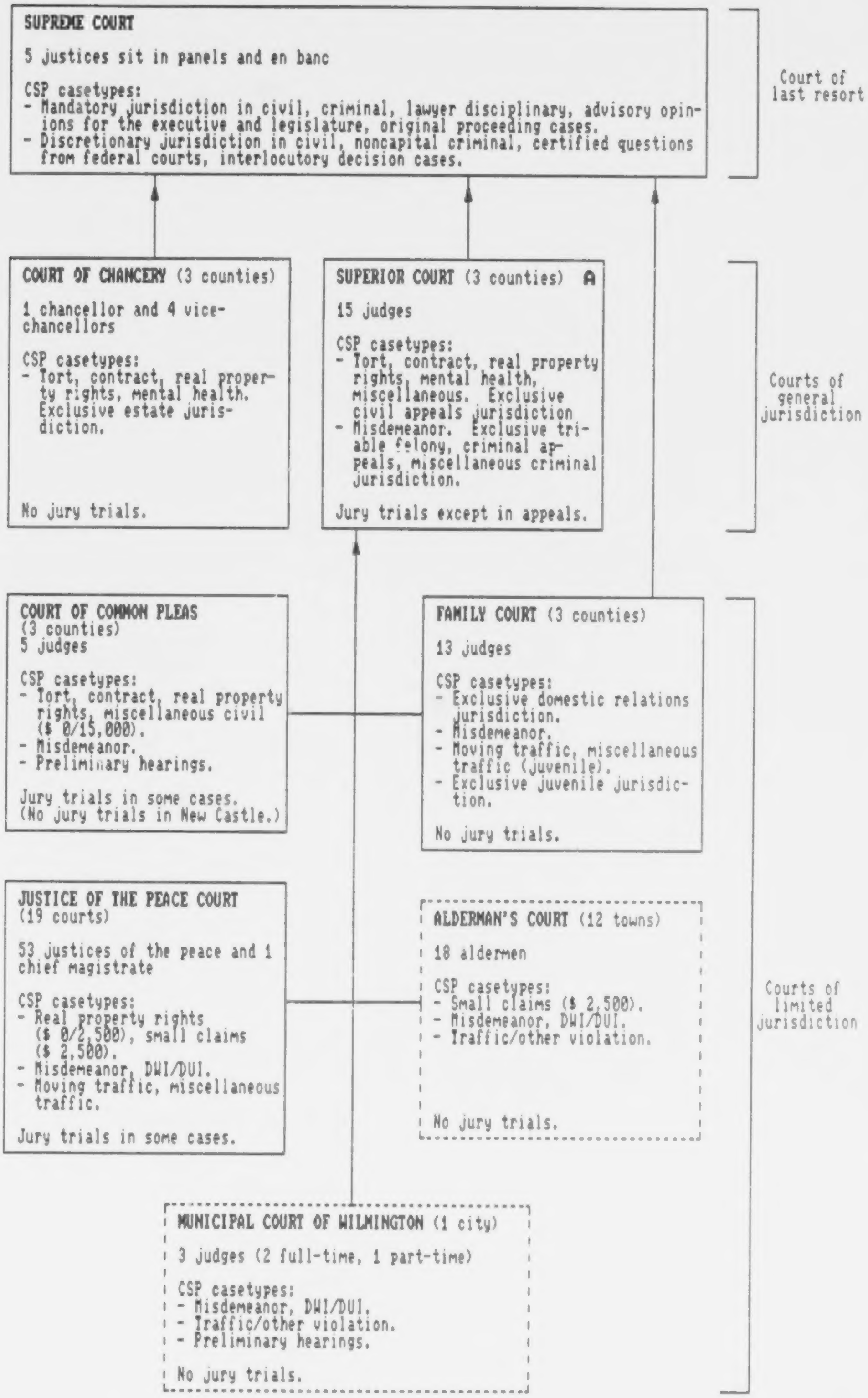
132 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

DELAWARE COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, lawyer disciplinary, advisory opinions for the executive and legislature, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, certified questions from federal courts, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF CHANCERY (3 counties)

1 chancellor and 4 vice-chancellors

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, mental health. Exclusive estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

SUPERIOR COURT (3 counties) A

15 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, mental health, miscellaneous. Exclusive civil appeals jurisdiction
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials except in appeals.

Courts of general jurisdiction

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (3 counties)
5 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 0/15,000).
- Misdemeanor.
- Preliminary hearings.

Jury trials in some cases. (No jury trials in New Castle.)

FAMILY COURT (3 counties)

13 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic (juvenile).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT (19 courts)

53 justices of the peace and 1 chief magistrate

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims ($ 2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials in some cases.

ALDERMAN'S COURT (12 towns)

18 aldermen

CSP casetypes:
- Small claims ($ 2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT OF WILMINGTON (1 city)

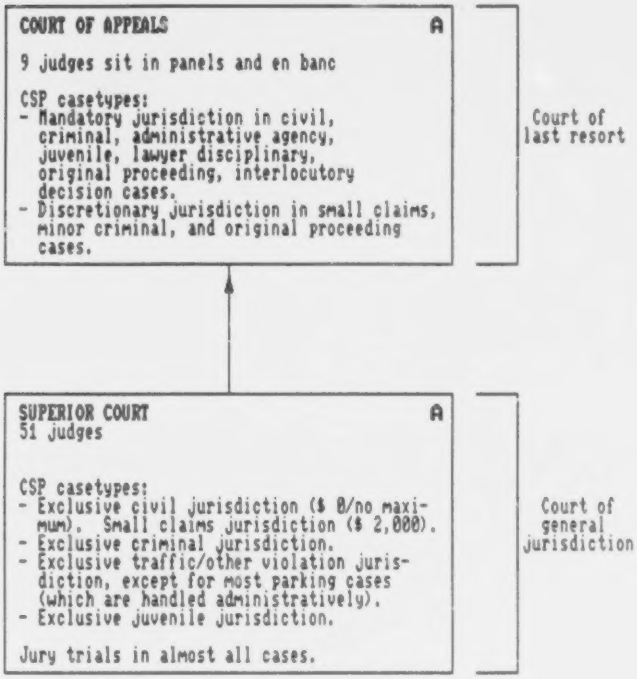
3 judges (2 full-time, 1 part-time)

CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Preliminary hearings.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



COURT OF APPEALS A

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in small claims, minor criminal, and original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

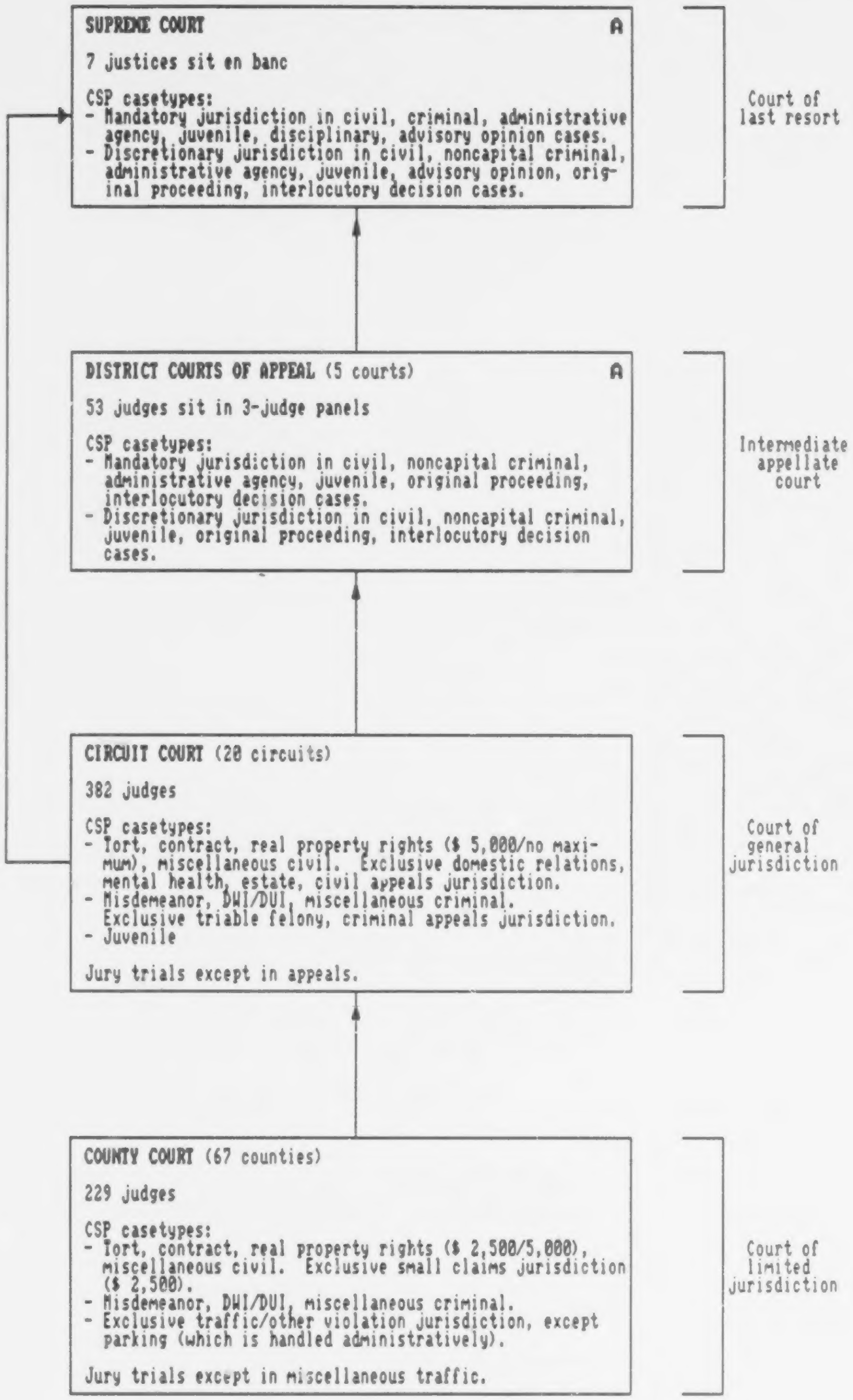
SUPERIOR COURT A
51 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction ($ 0/no maximum). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for most parking cases (which are handled administratively).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in almost all cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

FLORIDA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURTS OF APPEAL (5 courts) A

53 judges sit in 3-judge panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (20 circuits)

382 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 5,000/no maximum), miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile

Jury trials except in appeals.

Court of general jurisdiction

COUNTY COURT (67 counties)

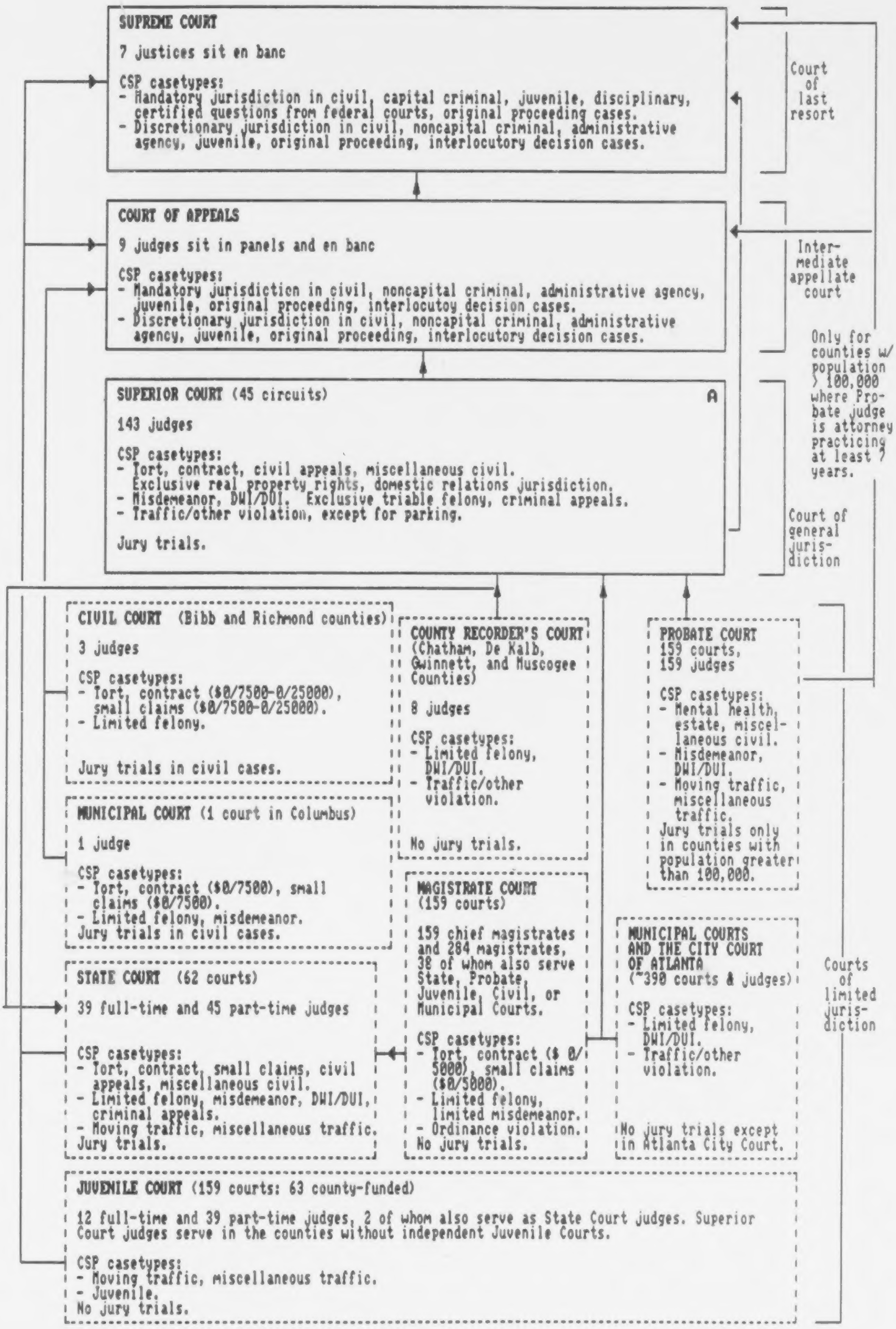
229 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 2,500/5,000), miscellaneous civil. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except parking (which is handled administratively).

Jury trials except in miscellaneous traffic.

Court of limited jurisdiction

GEORGIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Only for counties w/ population > 100,000 where Probate judge is attorney practicing at least 7 years.
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
A

SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, capital criminal, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutoy decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

SUPERIOR COURT (45 circuits)

143 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive real property rights, domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation, except for parking.

Jury trials.

CIVIL COURT (Bibb and Richmond counties)

3 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($0/7500-0/25000), small claims ($0/7500-0/25000).
- Limited felony.

Jury trials in civil cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (1 court in Columbus)

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($0/7500), small claims ($0/7500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.

Jury trials in civil cases.

STATE COURT (62 courts)

39 full-time and 45 part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, small claims, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

COUNTY RECORDER'S COURT (Chatham, De Kalb, Gwinnett, and Muscogee Counties)

8 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Limited felony, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

MAGISTRATE COURT (159 courts)

159 chief magistrates and 284 magistrates, 38 of whom also serve State, Probate, Juvenile, Civil, or Municipal Courts.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/5000), small claims ($0/5000).
- Limited felony, limited misdemeanor.
- Ordinance violation.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT
159 courts,
159 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mental health, estate, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials only in counties with population greater than 100,000.

MUNICIPAL COURTS AND THE CITY COURT OF ATLANTA
(~390 courts & judges)

CSP casetypes:
- Limited felony, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials except in Atlanta City Court.

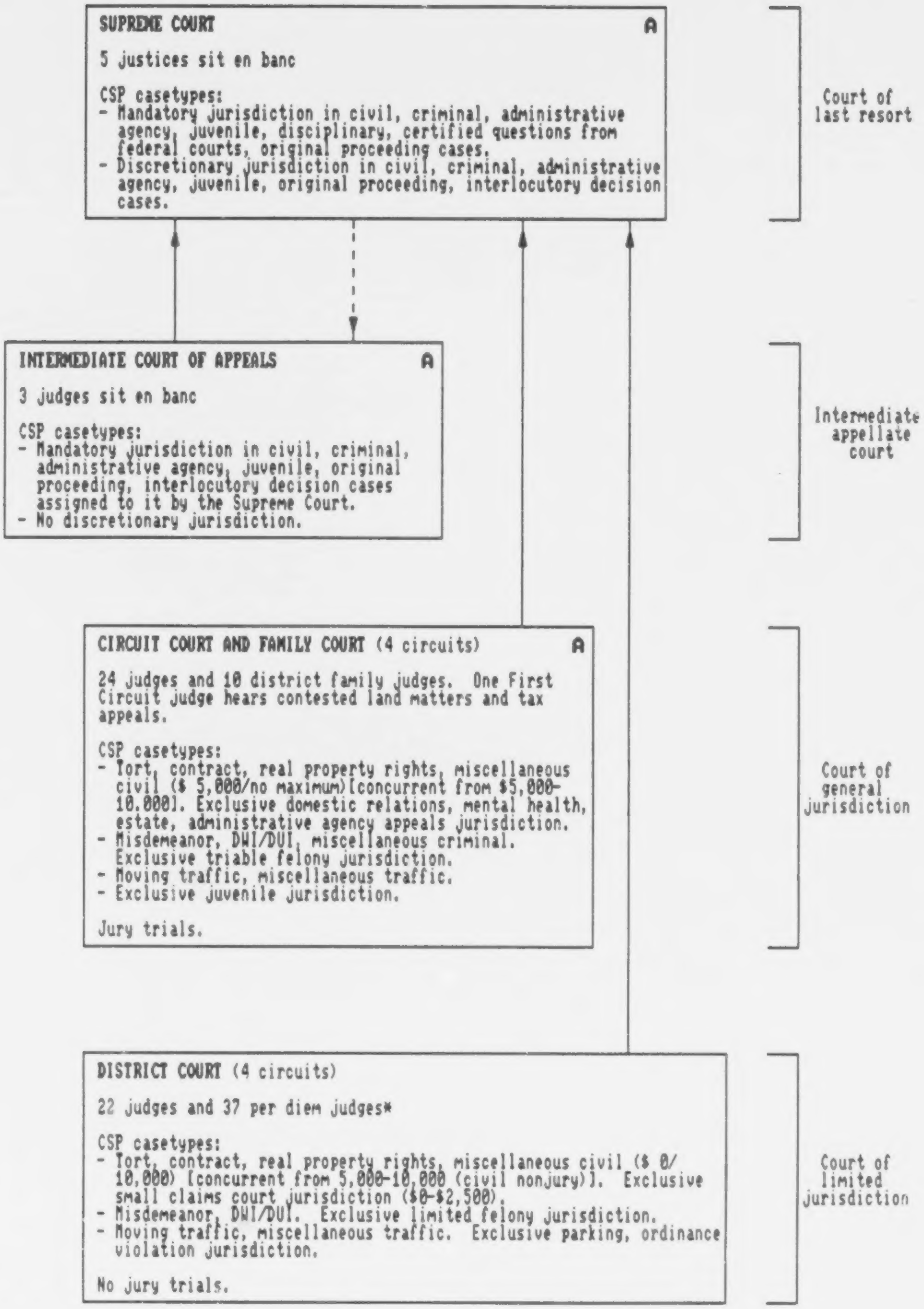
JUVENILE COURT (159 courts: 63 county-funded)

12 full-time and 39 part-time judges, 2 of whom also serve as State Court judges. Superior Court judges serve in the counties without independent Juvenile Courts.

CSP casetypes:
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

HAWAII COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS A

3 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases assigned to it by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT AND FAMILY COURT (4 circuits) A

24 judges and 10 district family judges. One First Circuit judge hears contested land matters and tax appeals.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 5,000/no maximum)[concurrent from $5,000-10.000]. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (4 circuits)

22 judges and 37 per diem judges*

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 0/10,000) [concurrent from 5,000-10,000 (civil nonjury)]. Exclusive small claims court jurisdiction ($0-$2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive parking, ordinance violation jurisdiction.

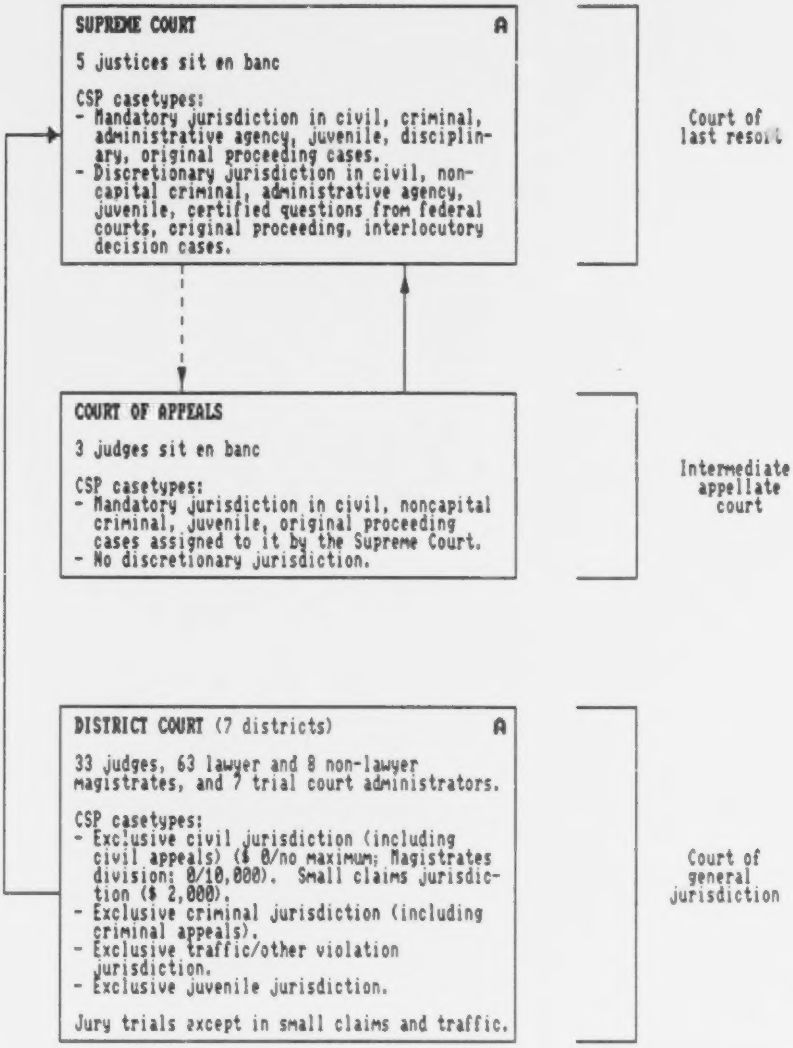
No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

* Some per diem judges are assigned to serve as per diem District & Family Court judges in the First Circuit.

IDAHO COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT **A**

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases assigned to it by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (7 districts) **A**

33 judges, 63 lawyer and 8 non-lawyer magistrates, and 7 trial court administrators.

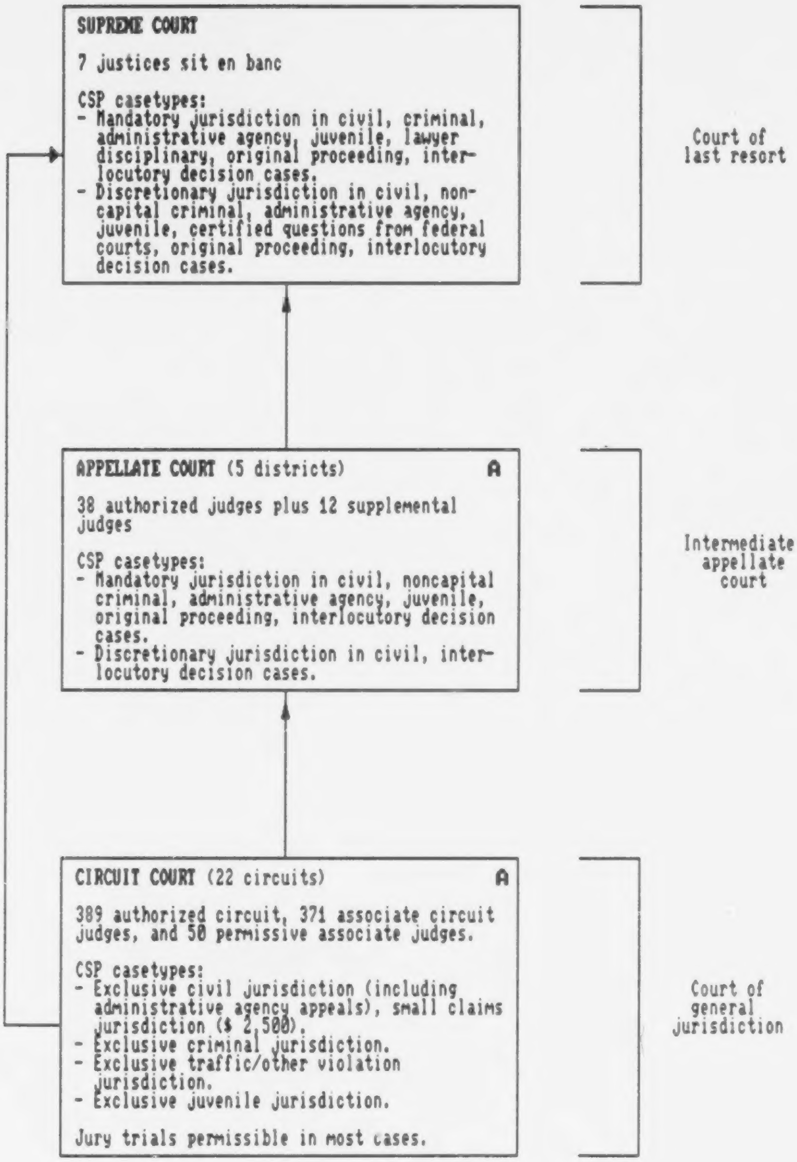
CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals) ($ 0/no maximum; Magistrates division: 0/10,000). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials except in small claims and traffic.

Court of general jurisdiction

---- indicates assignment of cases.

ILLINOIS COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

APPELLATE COURT (5 districts) **A**

38 authorized judges plus 12 supplemental judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (22 circuits) **A**

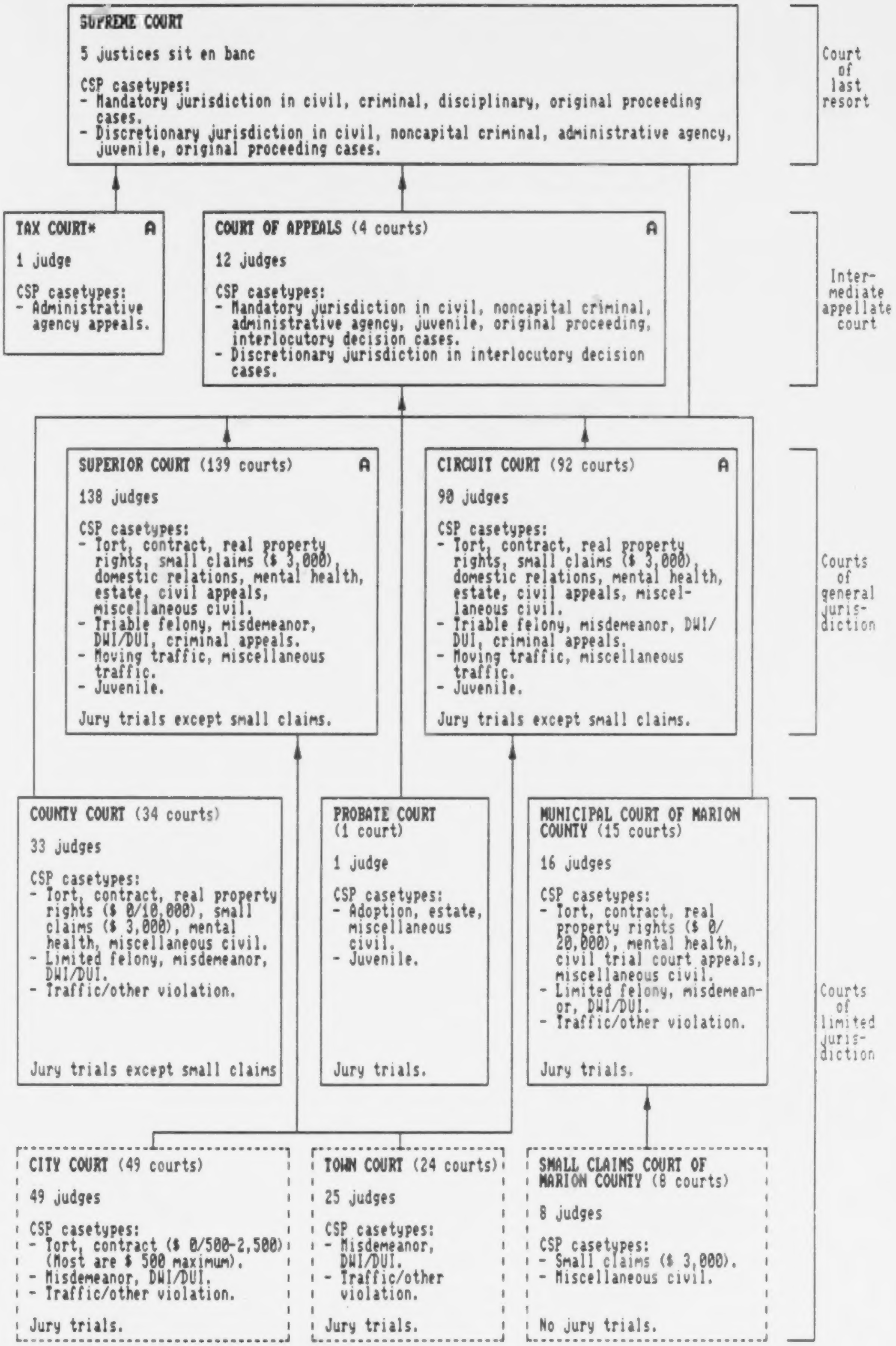
389 authorized circuit, 371 associate circuit judges, and 50 permissive associate judges.

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including administrative agency appeals), small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,500).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials permissible in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

INDIANA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
A

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

TAX COURT* A

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Administrative agency appeals.

COURT OF APPEALS (4 courts) A

12 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

SUPERIOR COURT (139 courts) A

138 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims ($ 3,000), domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials except small claims.

CIRCUIT COURT (92 courts) A

90 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims ($ 3,000), domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials except small claims.

COUNTY COURT (34 courts)

33 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 3,000), mental health, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials except small claims

PROBATE COURT (1 court)

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Adoption, estate, miscellaneous civil.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT OF MARION COUNTY (15 courts)

16 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/20,000), mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

CITY COURT (49 courts)

49 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/500-2,500) (Most are $ 500 maximum).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

TOWN COURT (24 courts)

25 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT OF MARION COUNTY (8 courts)

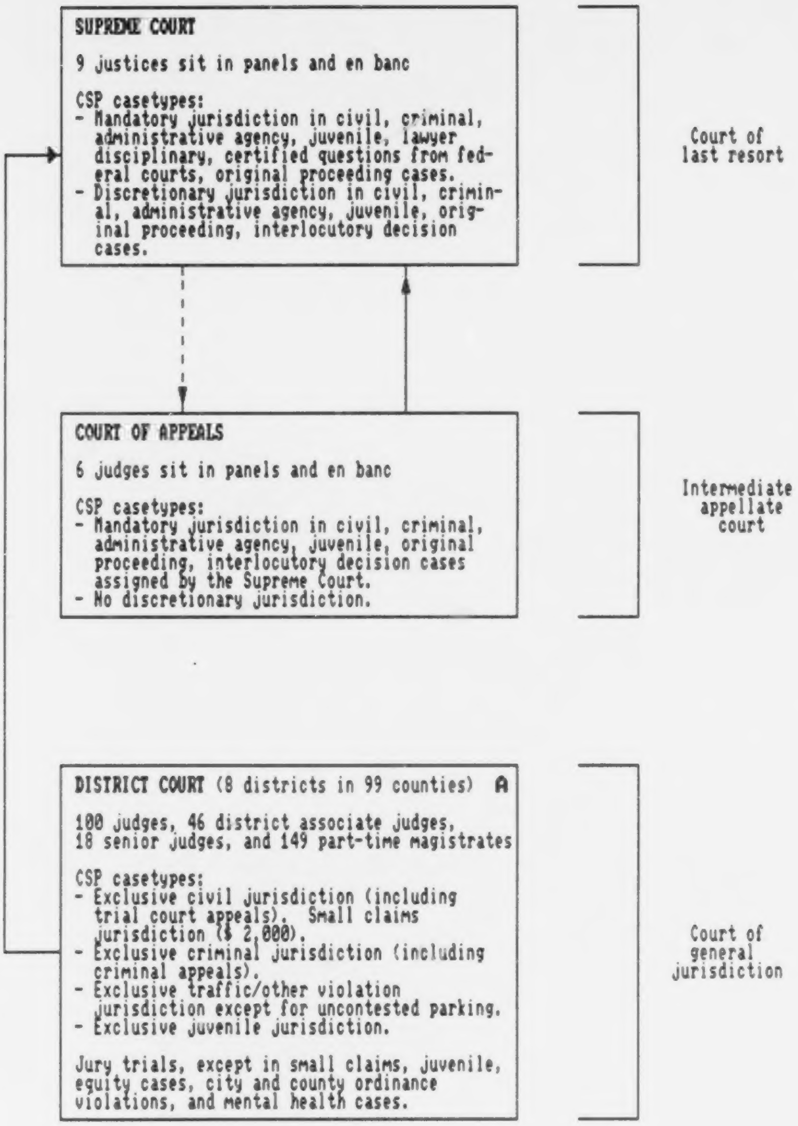
8 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Small claims ($ 3,000).
- Miscellaneous civil.

No jury trials.

* The Tax Court was established in 1986.

IOWA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS

6 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases assigned by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

DISTRICT COURT (8 districts in 99 counties) **A**

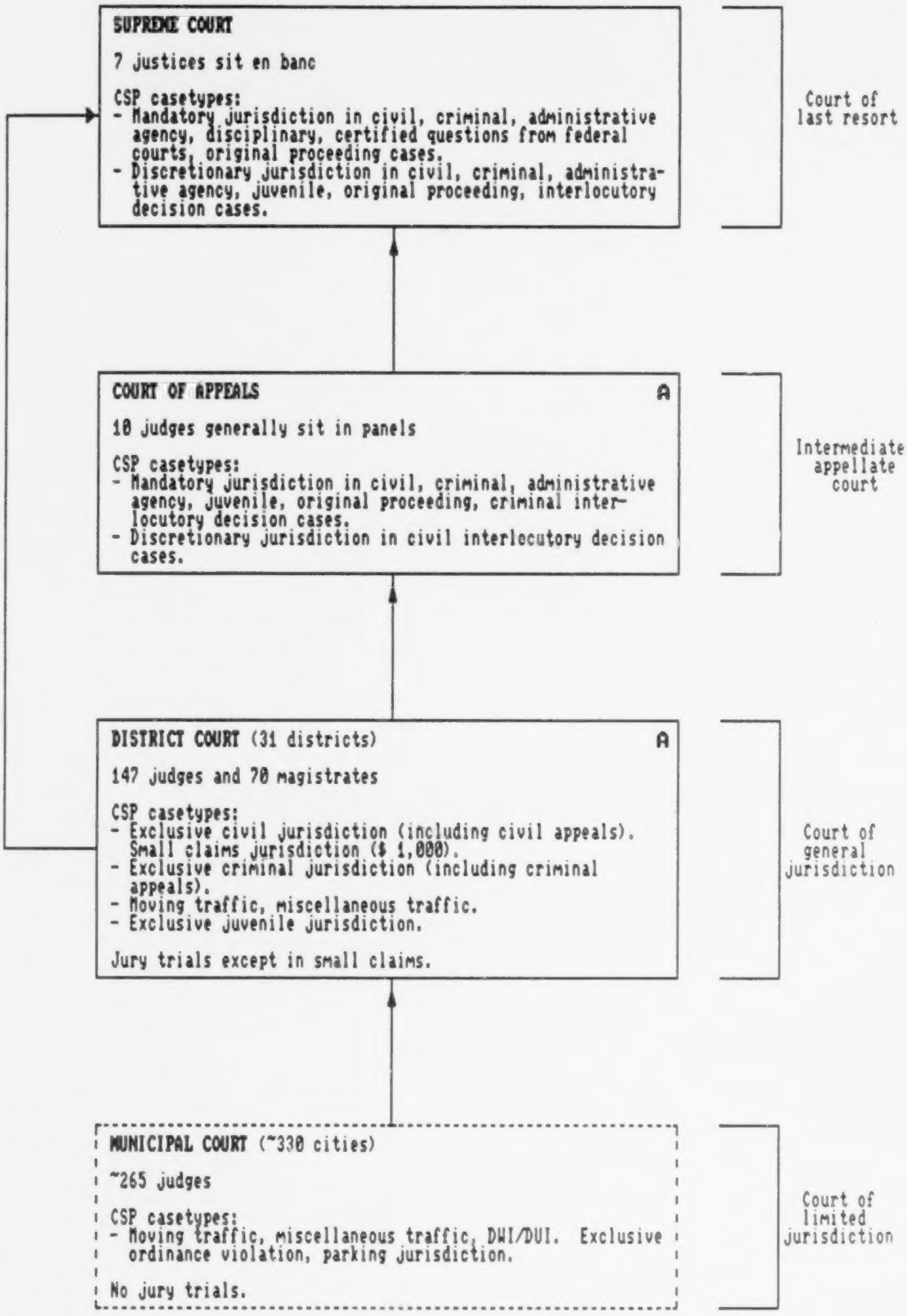
100 judges, 46 district associate judges, 18 senior judges, and 149 part-time magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including trial court appeals). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction except for uncontested parking.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in small claims, juvenile, equity cases, city and county ordinance violations, and mental health cases.

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

KANSAS COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS A

10 judges generally sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, criminal interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil interlocutory decision cases.

DISTRICT COURT (31 districts) A

147 judges and 70 magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (~330 cities)

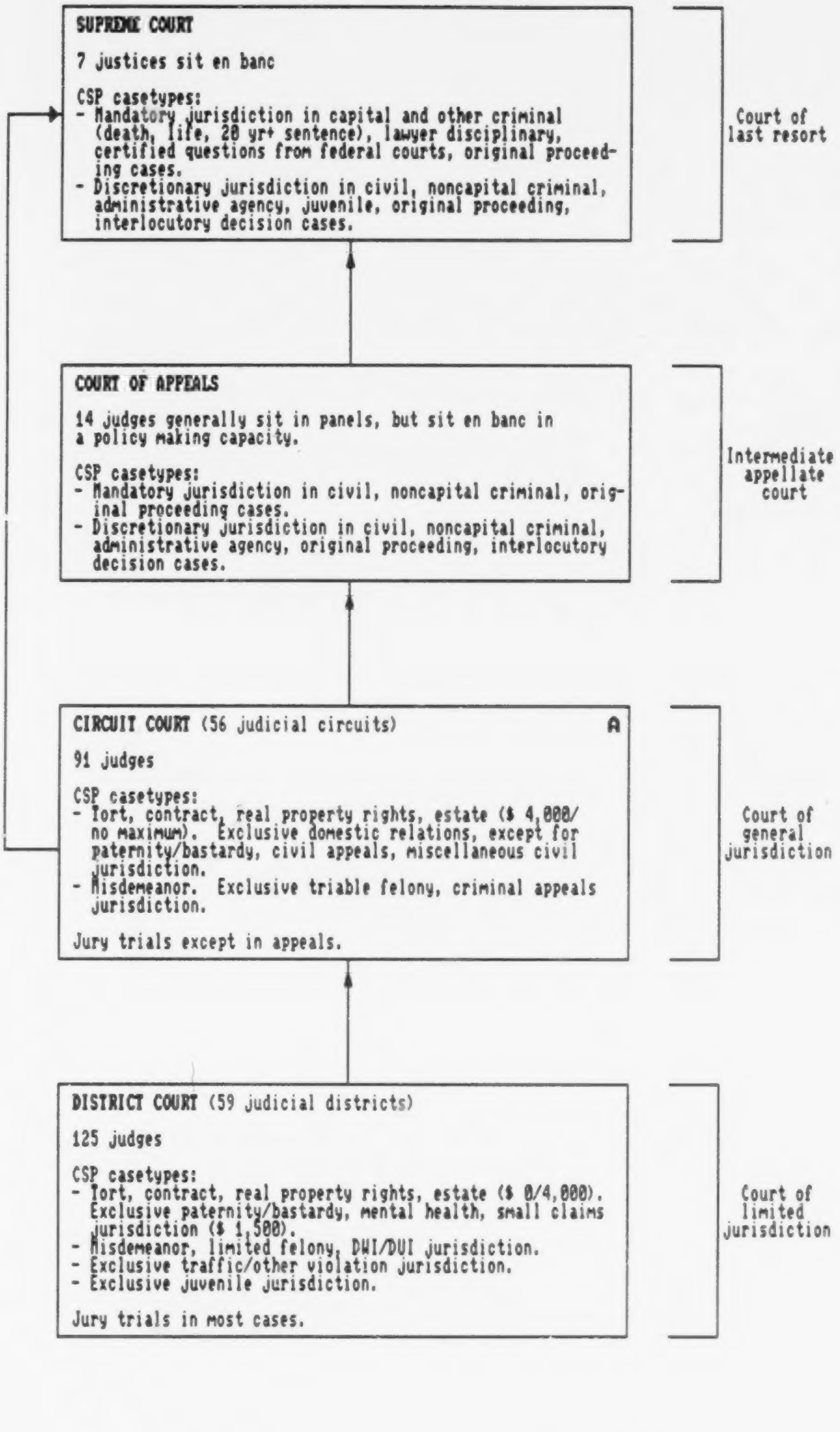
~265 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, DWI/DUI. Exclusive ordinance violation, parking jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Court of limited jurisdiction

KENTUCKY COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital and other criminal (death, life, 20 yr+ sentence), lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

14 judges generally sit in panels, but sit en banc in a policy making capacity.

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (56 judicial circuits) **A**

91 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate ($ 4,000/ no maximum). Exclusive domestic relations, except for paternity/bastardy, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials except in appeals.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (59 judicial districts)

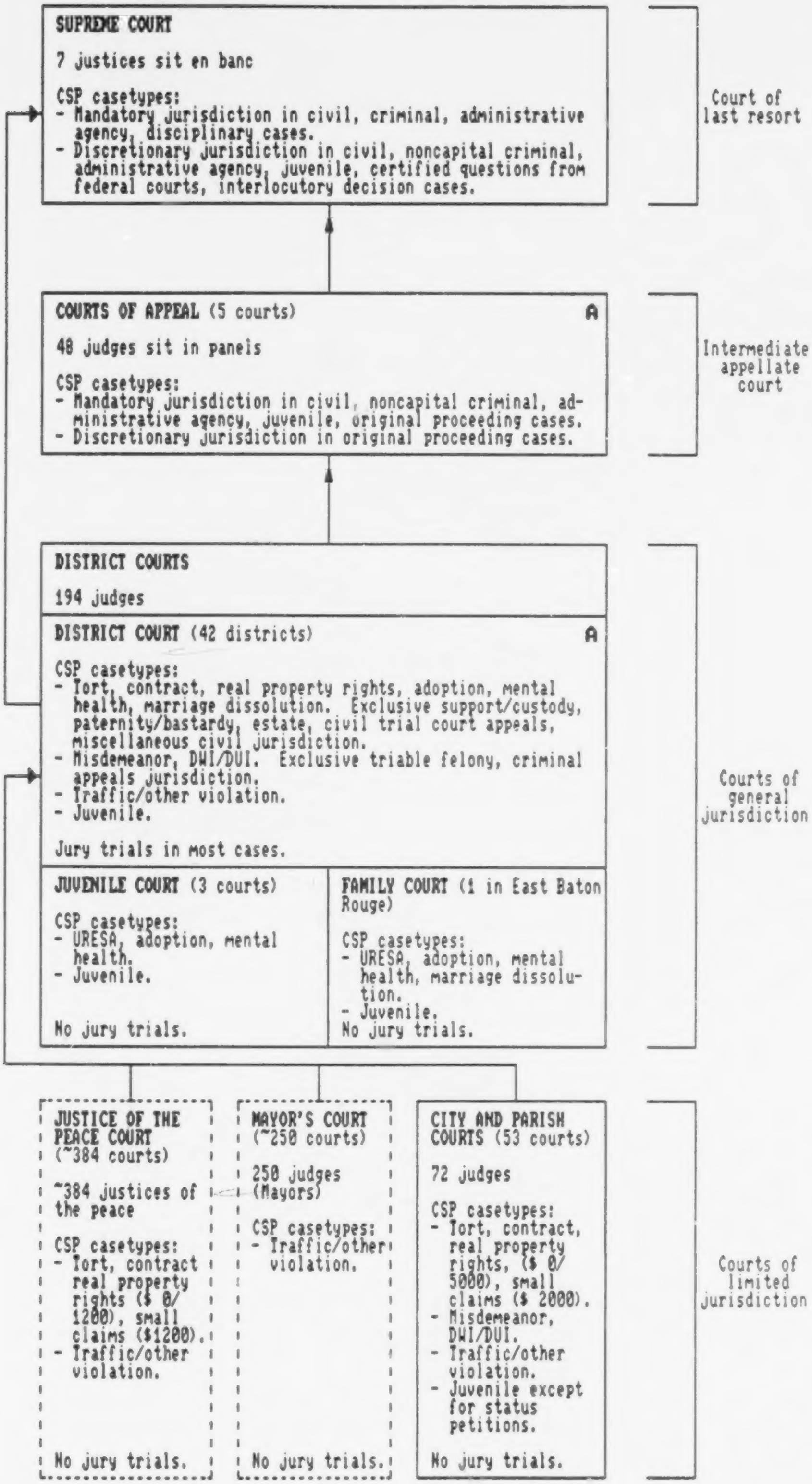
125 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate ($ 0/4,000). Exclusive paternity/bastardy, mental health, small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,500).
- Misdemeanor, limited felony, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of limited jurisdiction

LOUISIANA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, interlocutory decision cases.

COURTS OF APPEAL (5 courts) **A**

48 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in original proceeding cases.

DISTRICT COURTS

194 judges

DISTRICT COURT (42 districts) **A**

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, adoption, mental health, marriage dissolution. Exclusive support/custody, paternity/bastardy, estate, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

JUVENILE COURT (3 courts)

CSP casetypes:
- URESA, adoption, mental health.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

FAMILY COURT (1 in East Baton Rouge)

CSP casetypes:
- URESA, adoption, mental health, marriage dissolution.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT (~384 courts)

~384 justices of the peace

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract real property rights ($ 0/1200), small claims ($1200).
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

MAYOR'S COURT (~250 courts)

250 judges (Mayors)

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

CITY AND PARISH COURTS (53 courts)

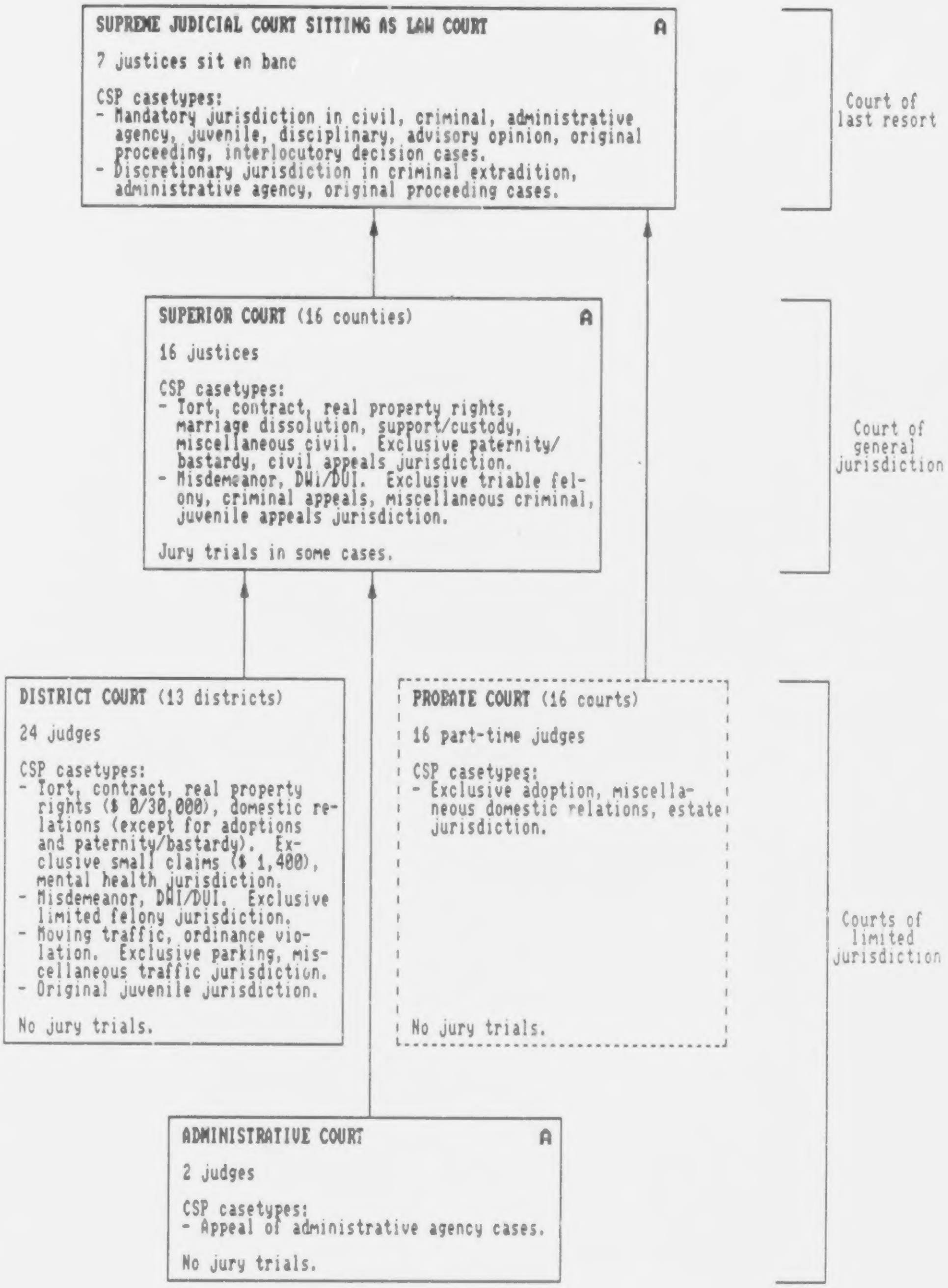
72 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, ($ 0/5000), small claims ($ 2000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile except for status petitions.

No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

MAINE COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT SITTING AS LAW COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal extradition, administrative agency, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (16 counties) A

16 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, marriage dissolution, support/custody, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive paternity/bastardy, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal, juvenile appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials in some cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (13 districts)

24 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/30,000), domestic relations (except for adoptions and paternity/bastardy). Exclusive small claims ($ 1,400), mental health jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, ordinance violation. Exclusive parking, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Original juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (16 courts)

16 part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

ADMINISTRATIVE COURT A

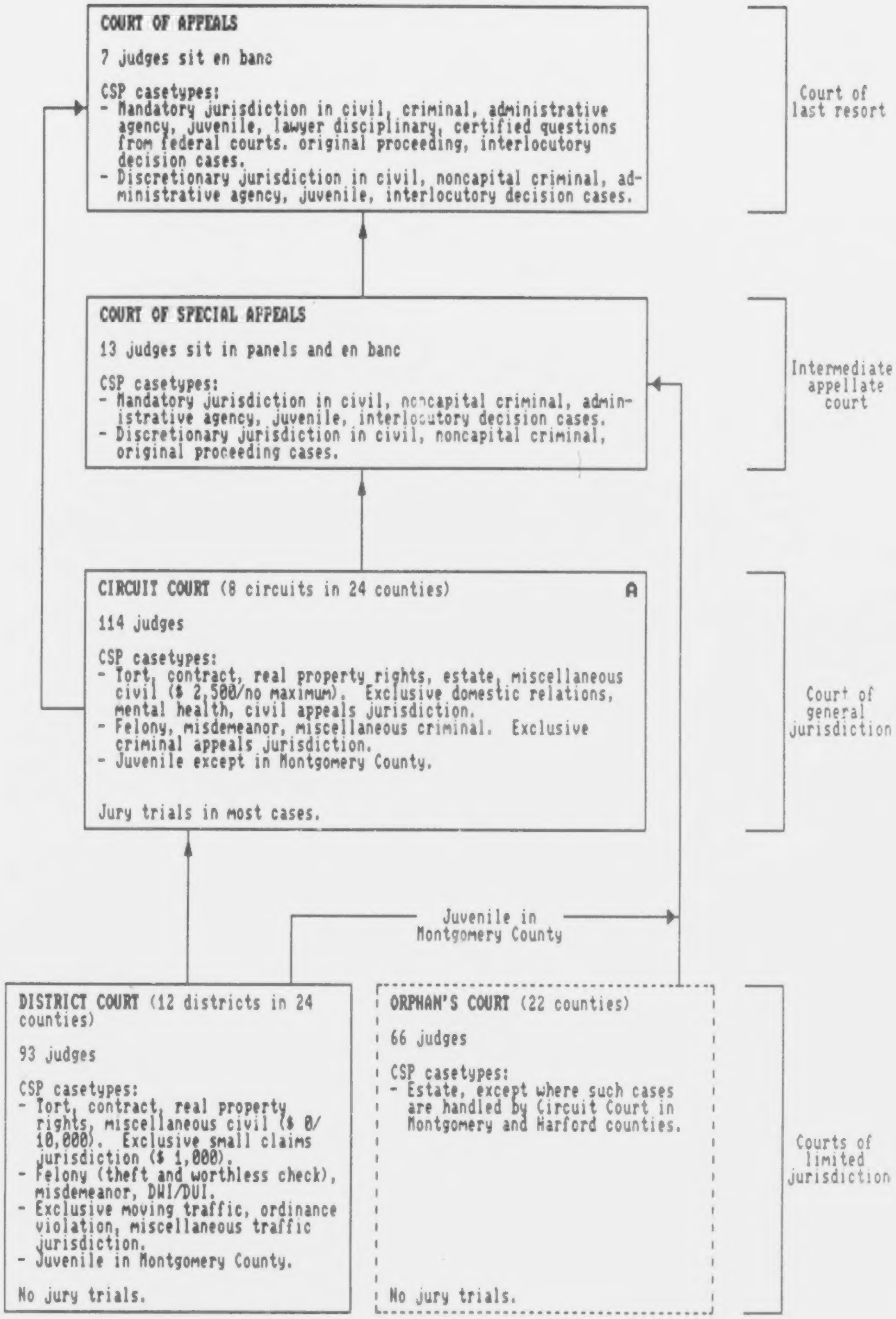
2 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Appeal of administrative agency cases.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

MARYLAND COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



COURT OF APPEALS

7 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts. original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS

13 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.

CIRCUIT COURT (8 circuits in 24 counties) **A**

114 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate, miscellaneous civil ($ 2,500/no maximum). Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Felony, misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile except in Montgomery County.

Jury trials in most cases.

DISTRICT COURT (12 districts in 24 counties)

93 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 0/ 10,000). Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Felony (theft and worthless check), misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Exclusive moving traffic, ordinance violation, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Juvenile in Montgomery County.

No jury trials.

ORPHAN'S COURT (22 counties)

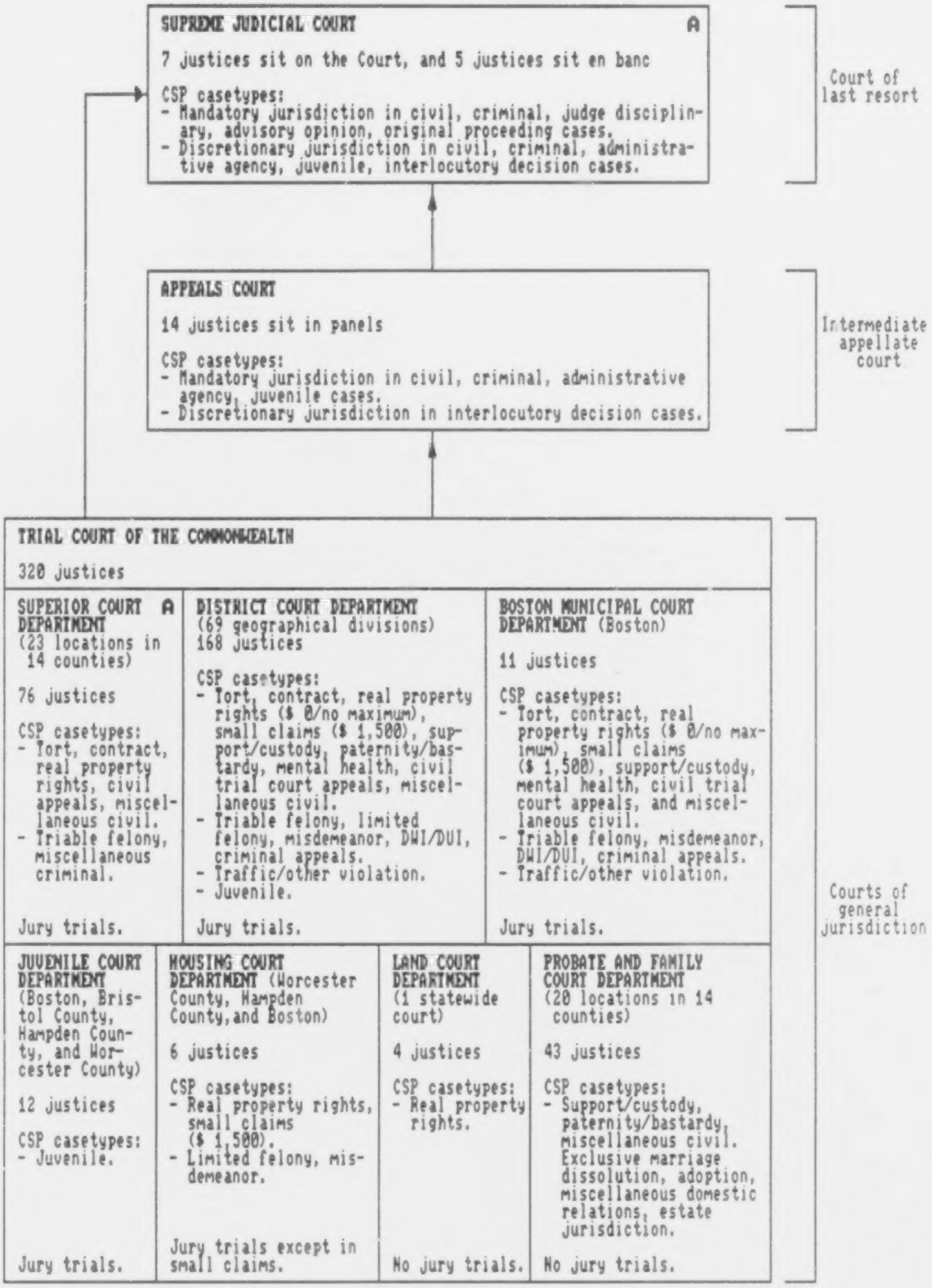
66 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Estate, except where such cases are handled by Circuit Court in Montgomery and Harford counties.

No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Juvenile in Montgomery County
Courts of limited jurisdiction

MASSACHUSETTS COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT A

7 justices sit on the Court, and 5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, judge disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

APPEALS COURT

14 justices sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

TRIAL COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH

320 justices

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT A
(23 locations in 14 counties)

76 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, miscellaneous criminal.

Jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT
(69 geographical divisions)
168 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/no maximum), small claims ($ 1,500), support/custody, paternity/bastardy, mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

BOSTON MUNICIPAL COURT DEPARTMENT (Boston)

11 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/no maximum), small claims ($ 1,500), support/custody, mental health, civil trial court appeals, and miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

JUVENILE COURT DEPARTMENT
(Boston, Bristol County, Hampden County, and Worcester County)

12 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

HOUSING COURT DEPARTMENT (Worcester County, Hampden County, and Boston)

6 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights, small claims ($ 1,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.

Jury trials except in small claims.

LAND COURT DEPARTMENT
(1 statewide court)

4 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights.

No jury trials.

PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT
(20 locations in 14 counties)

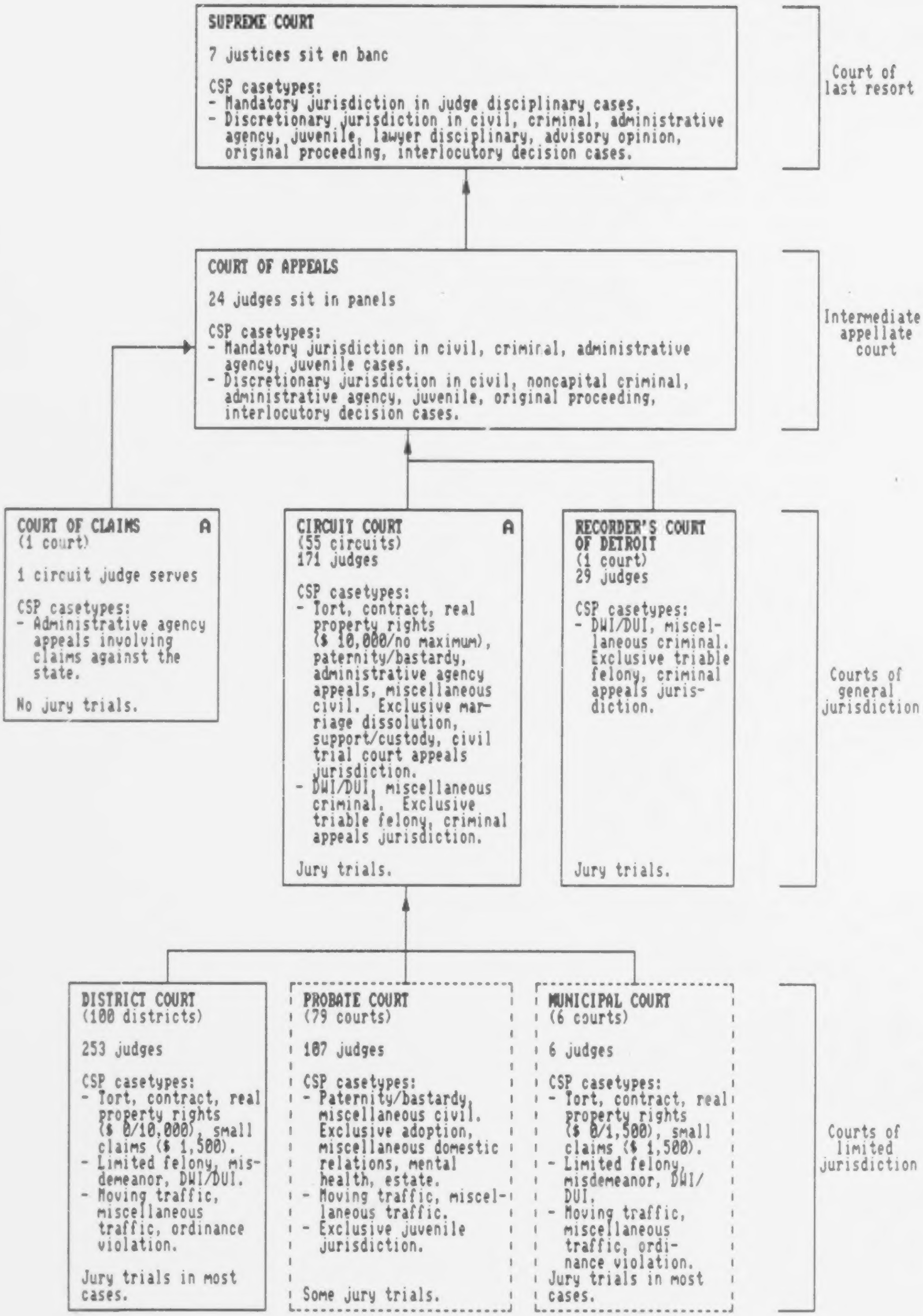
43 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive marriage dissolution, adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

MICHIGAN COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in judge disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

24 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

COURT OF CLAIMS A
(1 court)

1 circuit judge serves

CSP casetypes:
- Administrative agency appeals involving claims against the state.

No jury trials.

CIRCUIT COURT A
(55 circuits)
171 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 10,000/no maximum), paternity/bastardy, administrative agency appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive marriage dissolution, support/custody, civil trial court appeals jurisdiction.
- DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

RECORDER'S COURT OF DETROIT
(1 court)
29 judges

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT
(100 districts)

253 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

PROBATE COURT
(79 courts)

107 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, estate.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Some jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(6 courts)

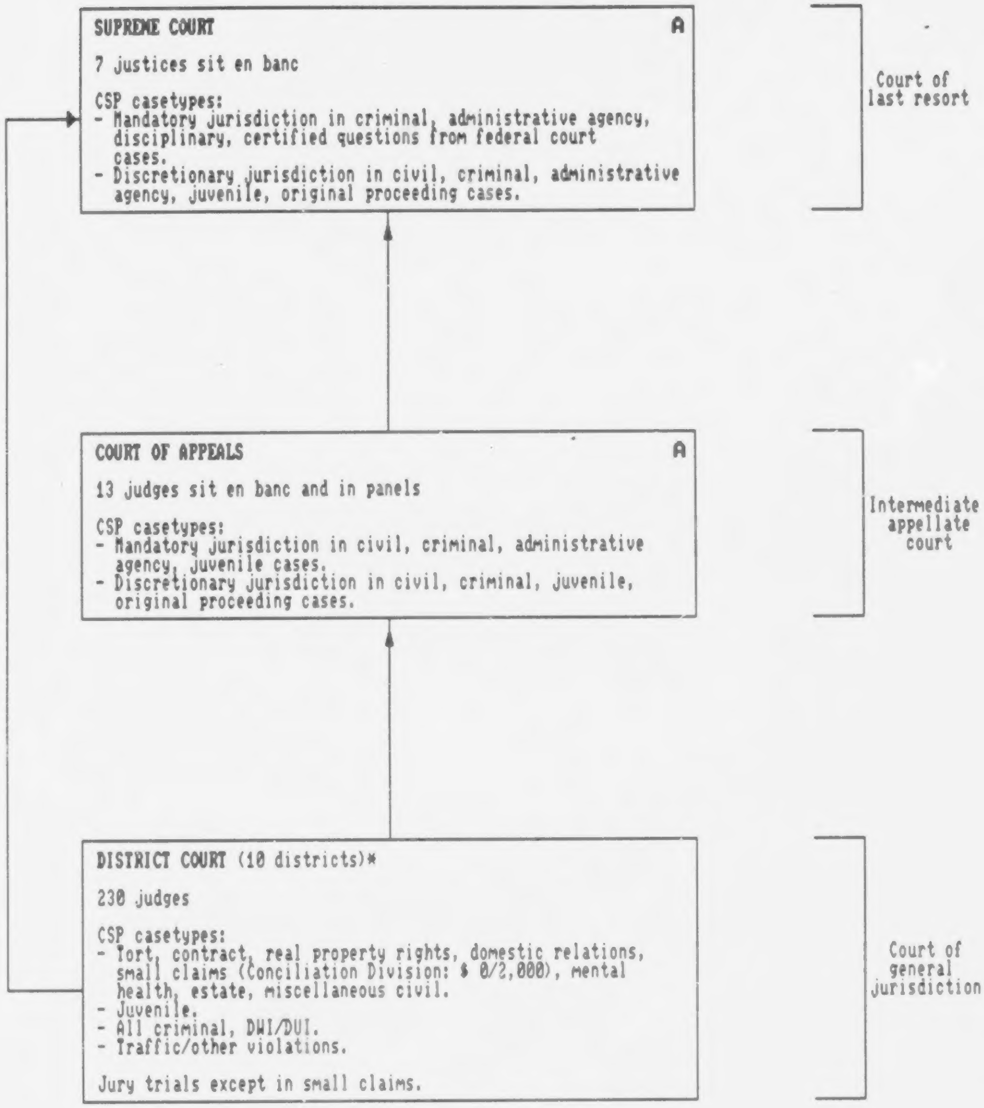
6 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/1,500), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

MINNESOTA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, certified questions from federal court cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF APPEALS A

13 judges sit en banc and in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

DISTRICT COURT (10 districts)*

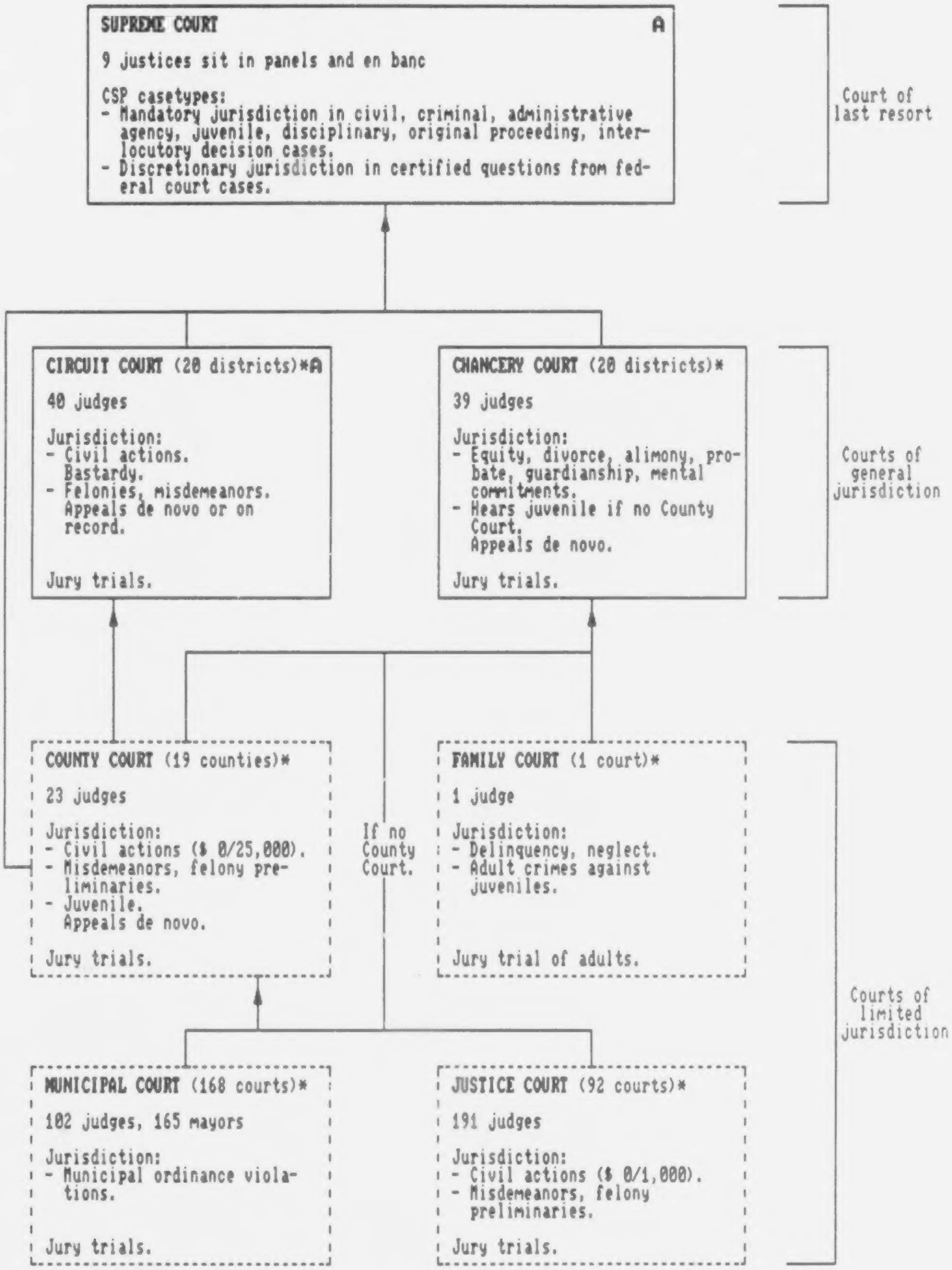
230 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, domestic relations, small claims (Conciliation Division: $ 0/2,000), mental health, estate, miscellaneous civil.
- Juvenile.
- All criminal, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violations.

Jury trials except in small claims.

* The District Court was consolidated in September, 1987.

MISSISSIPPI COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

9 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in certified questions from federal court cases.

Court of last resort

CIRCUIT COURT (20 districts)*A

40 judges

Jurisdiction:
- Civil actions.
  Bastardy.
- Felonies, misdemeanors.
  Appeals de novo or on record.

Jury trials.

CHANCERY COURT (20 districts)*

39 judges

Jurisdiction:
- Equity, divorce, alimony, probate, guardianship, mental commitments.
- Hears juvenile if no County Court.
  Appeals de novo.

Jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

COUNTY COURT (19 counties)*

23 judges

Jurisdiction:
- Civil actions ($ 0/25,000).
- Misdemeanors, felony preliminaries.
- Juvenile.
  Appeals de novo.

Jury trials.

If no County Court.

FAMILY COURT (1 court)*

1 judge

Jurisdiction:
- Delinquency, neglect.
- Adult crimes against juveniles.

Jury trial of adults.

MUNICIPAL COURT (168 courts)*

102 judges, 165 mayors

Jurisdiction:
- Municipal ordinance violations.

Jury trials.

JUSTICE COURT (92 courts)*

191 judges

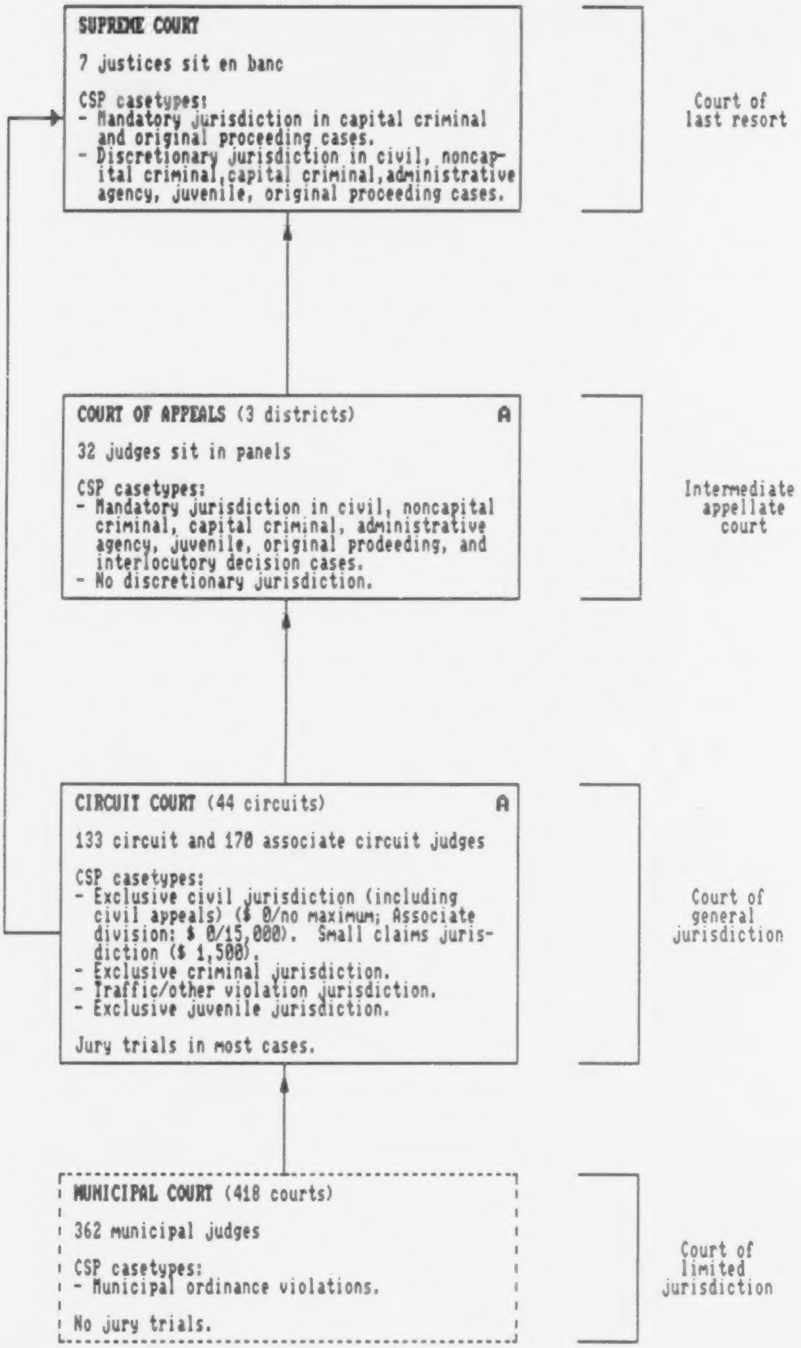
Jurisdiction:
- Civil actions ($ 0/1,000).
- Misdemeanors, felony preliminaries.

Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* A trial court jurisdiction guide was never completed by Mississippi, and data are unavailable for the trial courts; therefore, the trial court terminology reported in this court structure chart does not reflect CSP model reporting terms.

MISSOURI COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital criminal and original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, capital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (3 districts) A

32 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, capital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original prodeeding, and interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (44 circuits) A

133 circuit and 170 associate circuit judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals) ($ 0/no maximum; Associate division: $ 0/15,000). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,500).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (418 courts)

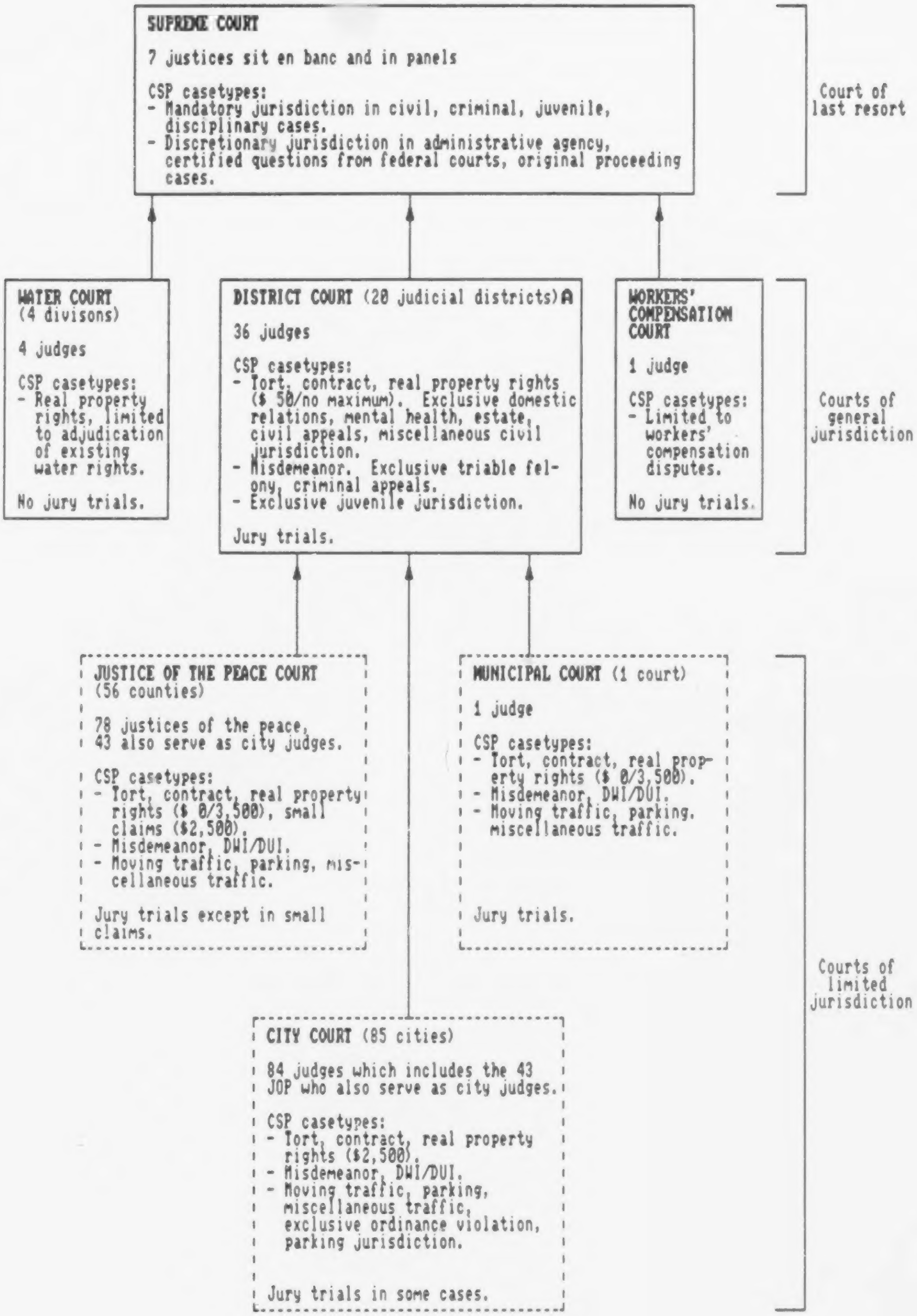
362 municipal judges

CSP casetypes:
- Municipal ordinance violations.

No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

MONTANA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc and in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

WATER COURT
(4 divisons)

4 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights, limited to adjudication of existing water rights.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (20 judicial districts)[A]

36 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 50/no maximum). Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Limited to workers' compensation disputes.

No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(56 counties)

78 justices of the peace,
43 also serve as city judges.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,500), small claims ($2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (1 court)

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

CITY COURT (85 cities)

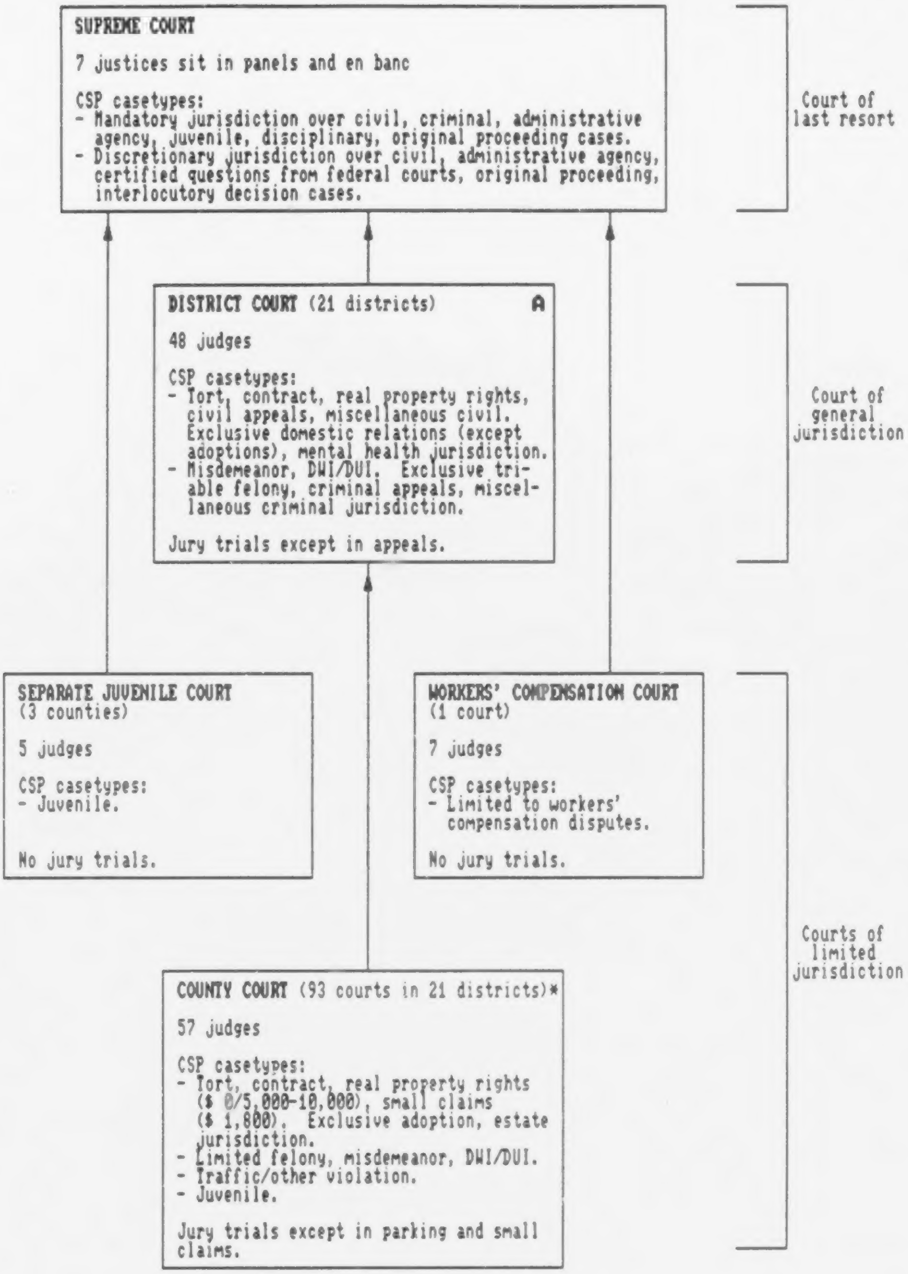
84 judges which includes the 43 JOP who also serve as city judges.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic, exclusive ordinance violation, parking jurisdiction.

Jury trials in some cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NEBRASKA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction over civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction over civil, administrative agency, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (21 districts) A

48 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations (except adoptions), mental health jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials except in appeals.

Court of general jurisdiction

SEPARATE JUVENILE COURT
(3 counties)

5 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT
(1 court)

7 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Limited to workers' compensation disputes.

No jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (93 courts in 21 districts)*

57 judges

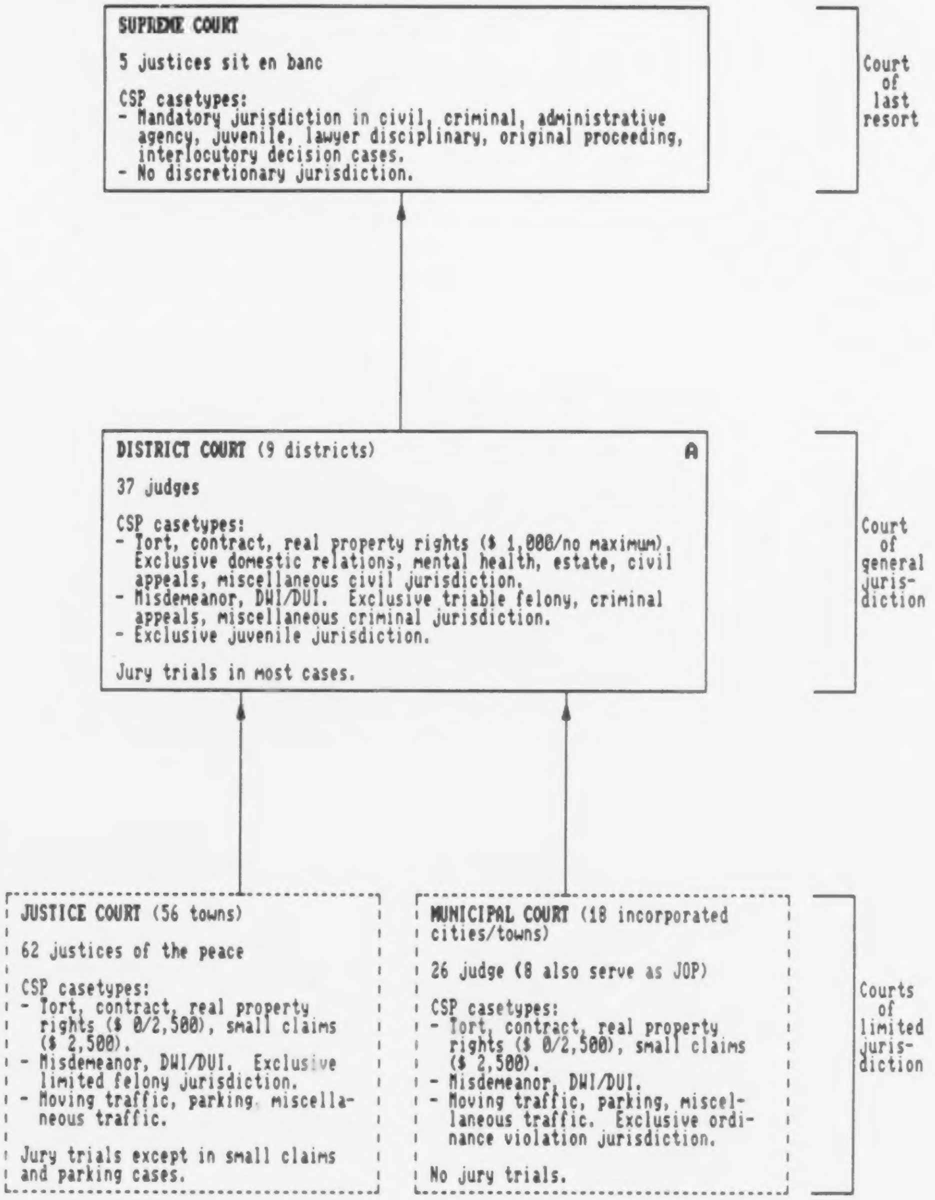
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/5,000-10,000), small claims ($ 1,800). Exclusive adoption, estate jurisdiction.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials except in parking and small claims.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* In July 1985, the Municipal Courts were merged with the County Courts.

NEVADA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (9 districts) A

37 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 1,000/no maximum). Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE COURT (56 towns)

62 justices of the peace

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims ($ 2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials except in small claims and parking cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (18 incorporated cities/towns)

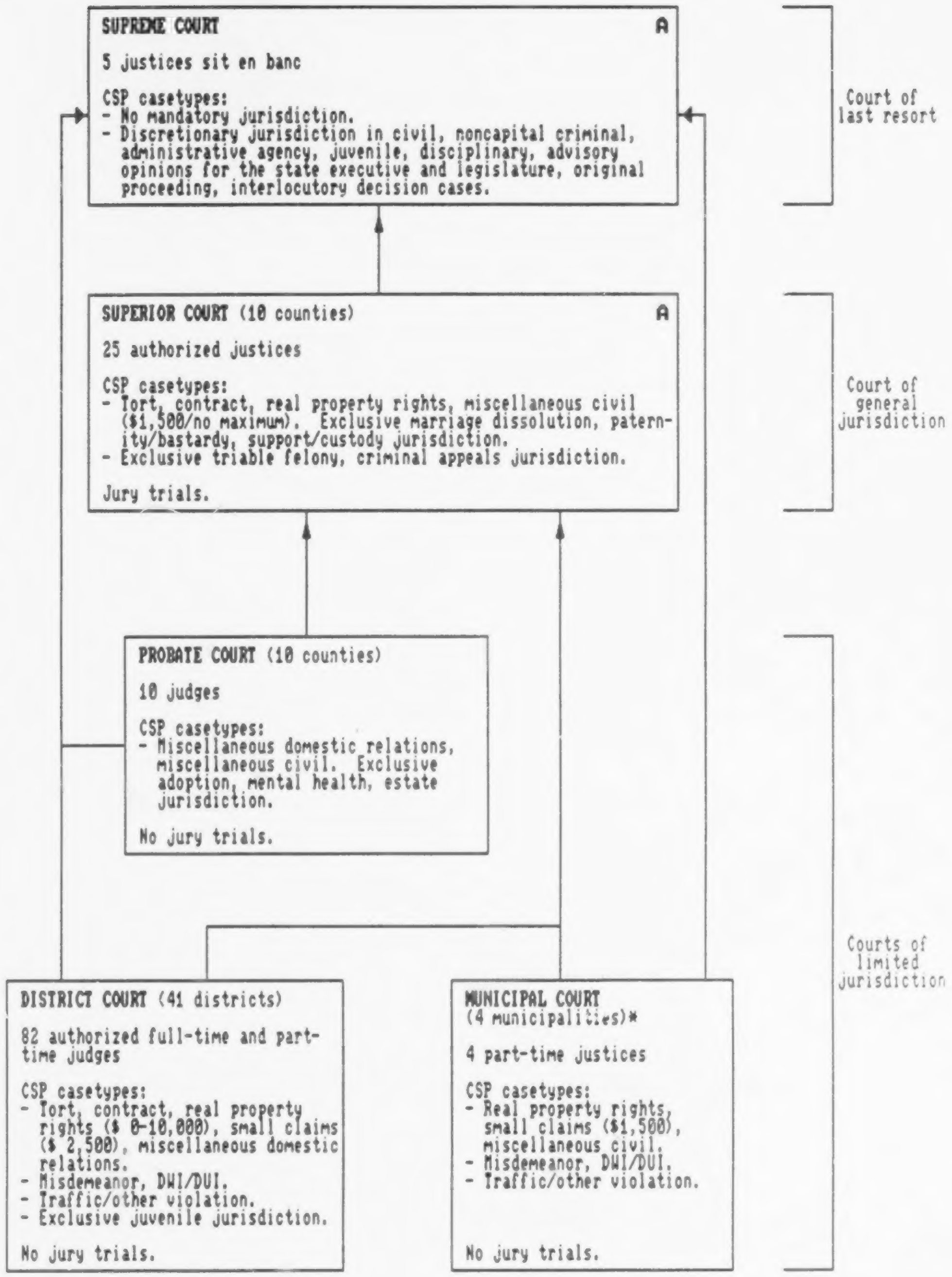
26 judge (8 also serve as JOP)

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims ($ 2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NEW HAMPSHIRE COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- No mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinions for the state executive and legislature, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (10 counties) A

25 authorized justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($1,500/no maximum). Exclusive marriage dissolution, paternity/bastardy, support/custody jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

PROBATE COURT (10 counties)

10 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, mental health, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (41 districts)

82 authorized full-time and part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0-10,000), small claims ($ 2,500), miscellaneous domestic relations.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(4 municipalities)*

4 part-time justices

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights, small claims ($1,500), miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

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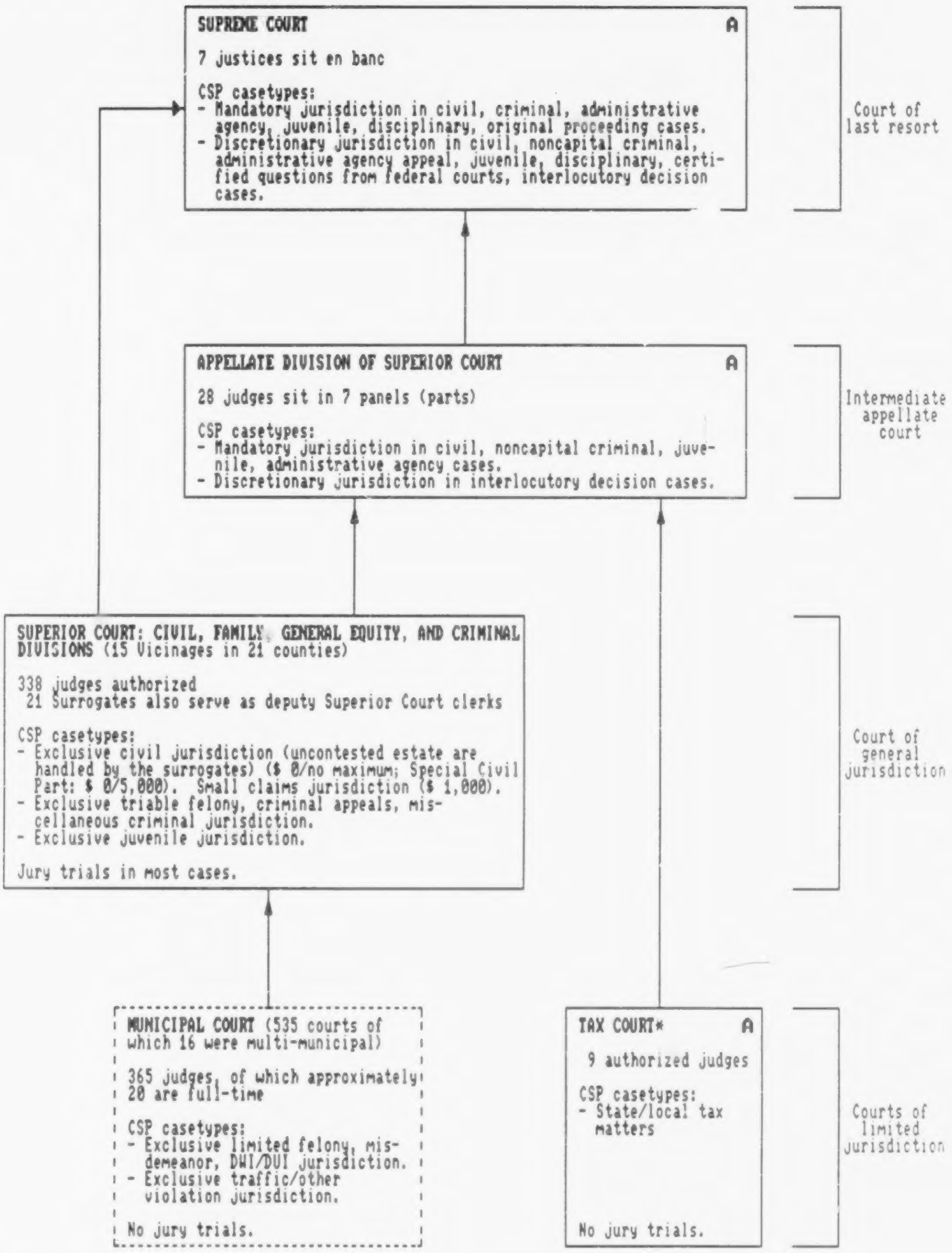
* The Municipal Court is being phased out (by statute) upon retirement and/or resignation of sitting justices.

NEW JERSEY COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency appeal, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

APPELLATE DIVISION OF SUPERIOR COURT A

28 judges sit in 7 panels (parts)

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, administrative agency cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT: CIVIL, FAMILY, GENERAL EQUITY, AND CRIMINAL DIVISIONS (15 Vicinages in 21 counties)

338 judges authorized
21 Surrogates also serve as deputy Superior Court clerks

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (uncontested estate are handled by the surrogates) ($ 0/no maximum; Special Civil Part: $ 0/5,000). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (535 courts of which 16 were multi-municipal)

365 judges, of which approximately 20 are full-time

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

TAX COURT* A

9 authorized judges

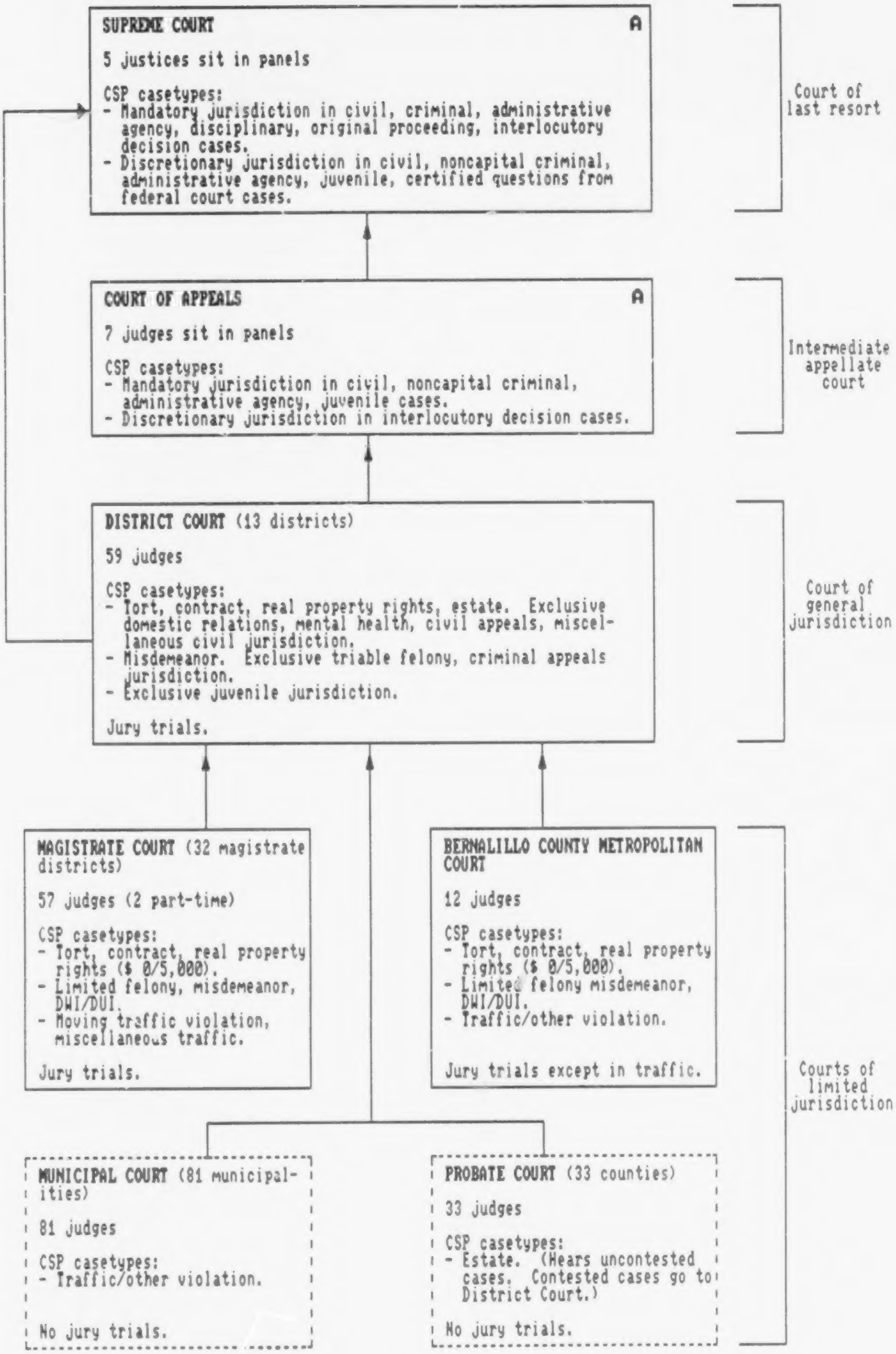
CSP casetypes:
- State/local tax matters

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* Tax Court is considered a limited jurisdiction court because of its specialized subject matter. Nevertheless, it receives appeals from administrative bodies and its cases are appealed to the intermediate appellate court. Tax Court judges have the same general qualifications and terms of service as Superior Court judges and can be cross assigned.

NEW MEXICO COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal court cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

7 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (13 districts)

59 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MAGISTRATE COURT (32 magistrate districts)

57 judges (2 part-time)

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/5,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic violation, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

BERNALILLO COUNTY METROPOLITAN COURT

12 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/5,000).
- Limited felony misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials except in traffic.

MUNICIPAL COURT (81 municipalities)

81 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (33 counties)

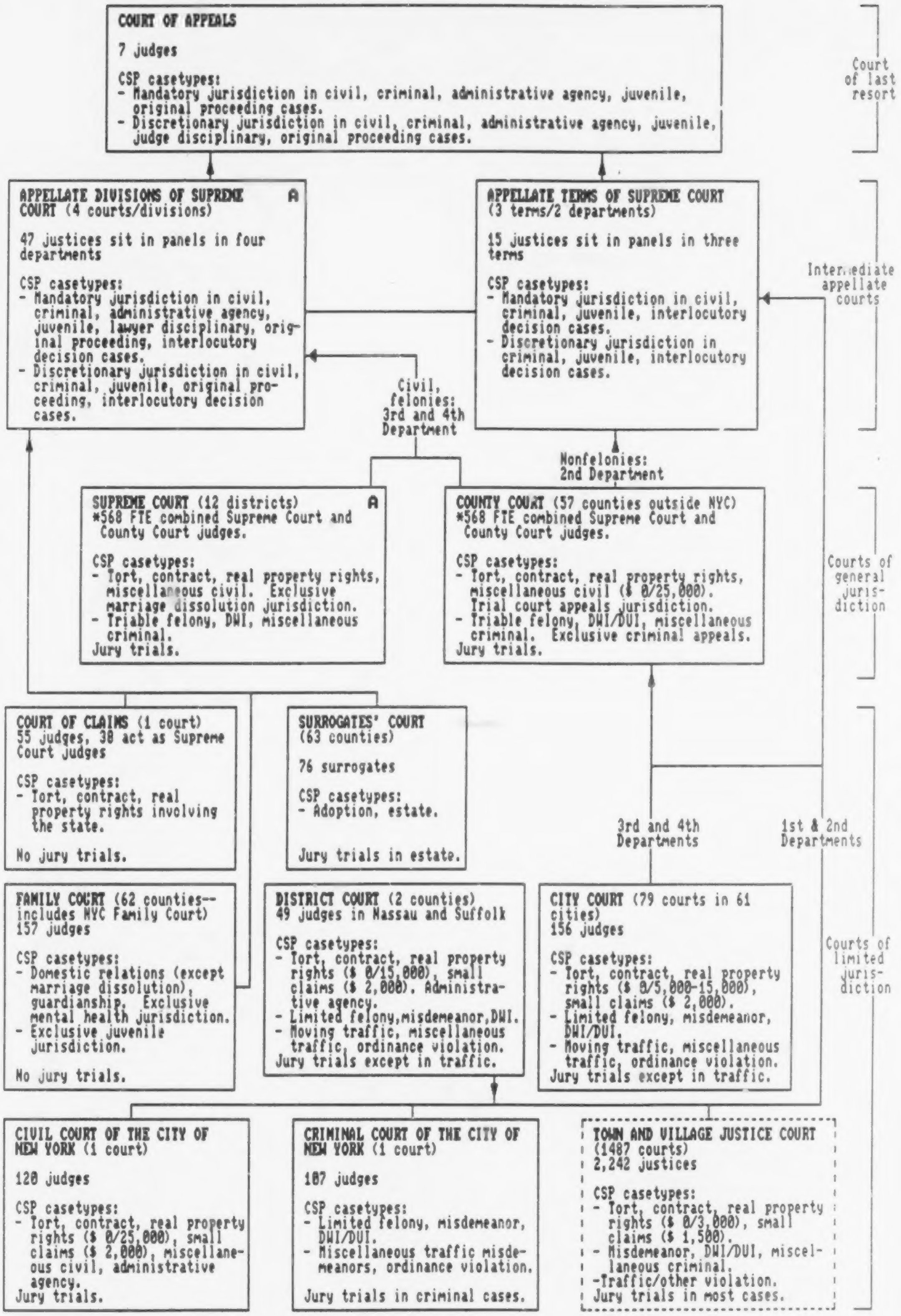
33 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Estate. (Hears uncontested cases. Contested cases go to District Court.)

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NEW YORK COURT STRUCTURE, 1989


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate courts
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
Civil, felonies: 3rd and 4th Department
Nonfelonies: 2nd Department
3rd and 4th Departments
1st & 2nd Departments
A
A

COURT OF APPEALS

7 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, judge disciplinary, original proceeding cases.

APPELLATE DIVISIONS OF SUPREME COURT (4 courts/divisions)

47 justices sit in panels in four departments

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

APPELLATE TERMS OF SUPREME COURT (3 terms/2 departments)

15 justices sit in panels in three terms

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

SUPREME COURT (12 districts)
*568 FTE combined Supreme Court and County Court judges.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive marriage dissolution jurisdiction.
- Triable felony, DWI, miscellaneous criminal.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (57 counties outside NYC)
*568 FTE combined Supreme Court and County Court judges.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 0/25,000). Trial court appeals jurisdiction.
- Triable felony, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive criminal appeals.

Jury trials.

COURT OF CLAIMS (1 court)
55 judges, 30 act as Supreme Court judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights involving the state.

No jury trials.

SURROGATES' COURT
(63 counties)

76 surrogates

CSP casetypes:
- Adoption, estate.

Jury trials in estate.

FAMILY COURT (62 counties--includes NYC Family Court)
157 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Domestic relations (except marriage dissolution), guardianship. Exclusive mental health jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (2 counties)
49 judges in Nassau and Suffolk

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/15,000), small claims ($ 2,000). Administrative agency.
- Limited felony,misdemeanor,DWI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials except in traffic.

CITY COURT (79 courts in 61 cities)
156 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/5,000-15,000), small claims ($ 2,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials except in traffic.

CIVIL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (1 court)

120 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/25,000), small claims ($ 2,000), miscellaneous civil, administrative agency.

Jury trials.

CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (1 court)

107 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Miscellaneous traffic misdemeanors, ordinance violation.

Jury trials in criminal cases.

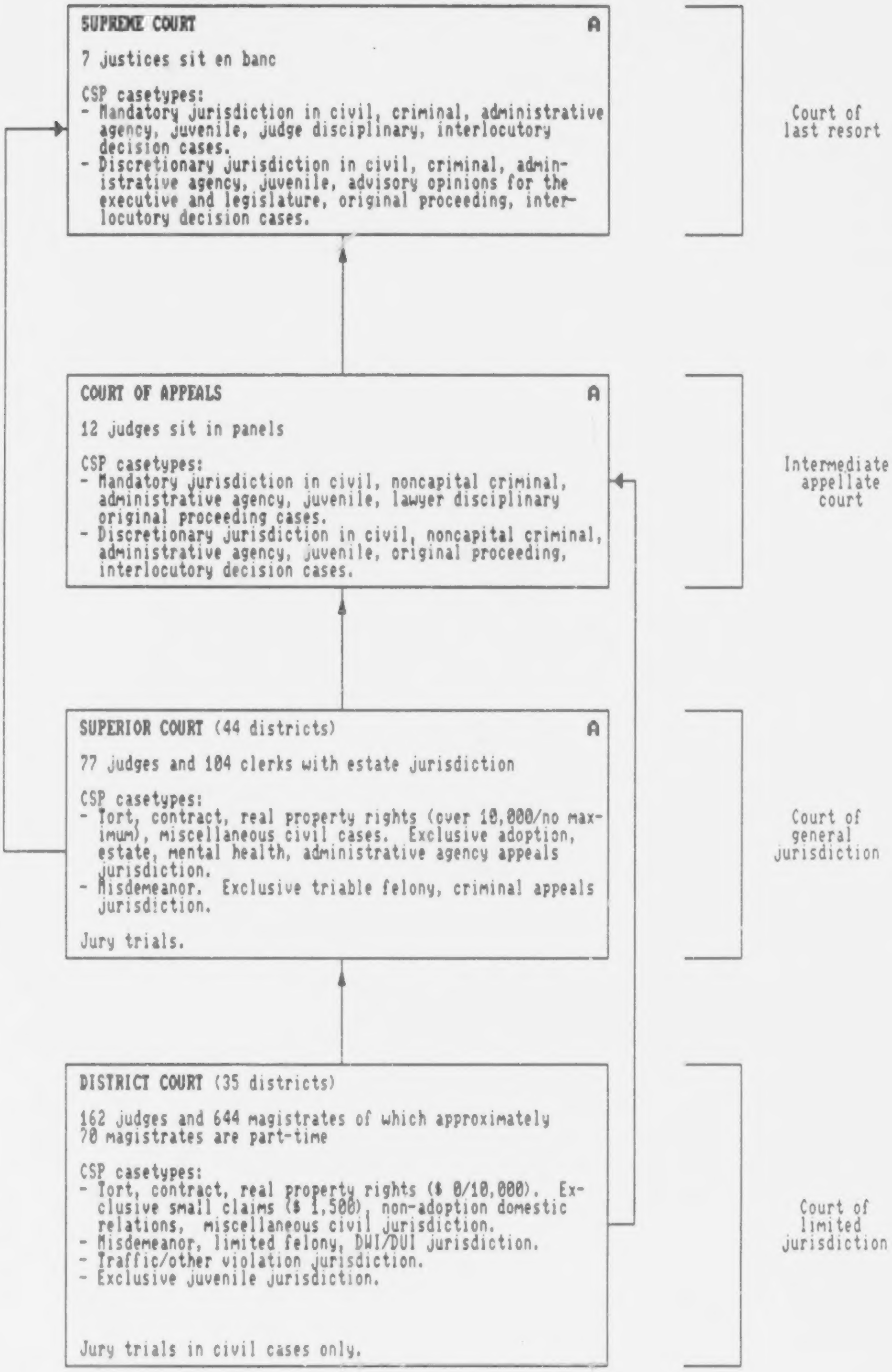
TOWN AND VILLAGE JUSTICE COURT
(1487 courts)
2,242 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,000), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

* Includes Acting Supreme Court Justices assigned administratively.

NORTH CAROLINA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, judge disciplinary, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinions for the executive and legislature, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

12 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (44 districts) A

77 judges and 104 clerks with estate jurisdiction

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights (over 10,000/no maximum), miscellaneous civil cases. Exclusive adoption, estate, mental health, administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (35 districts)

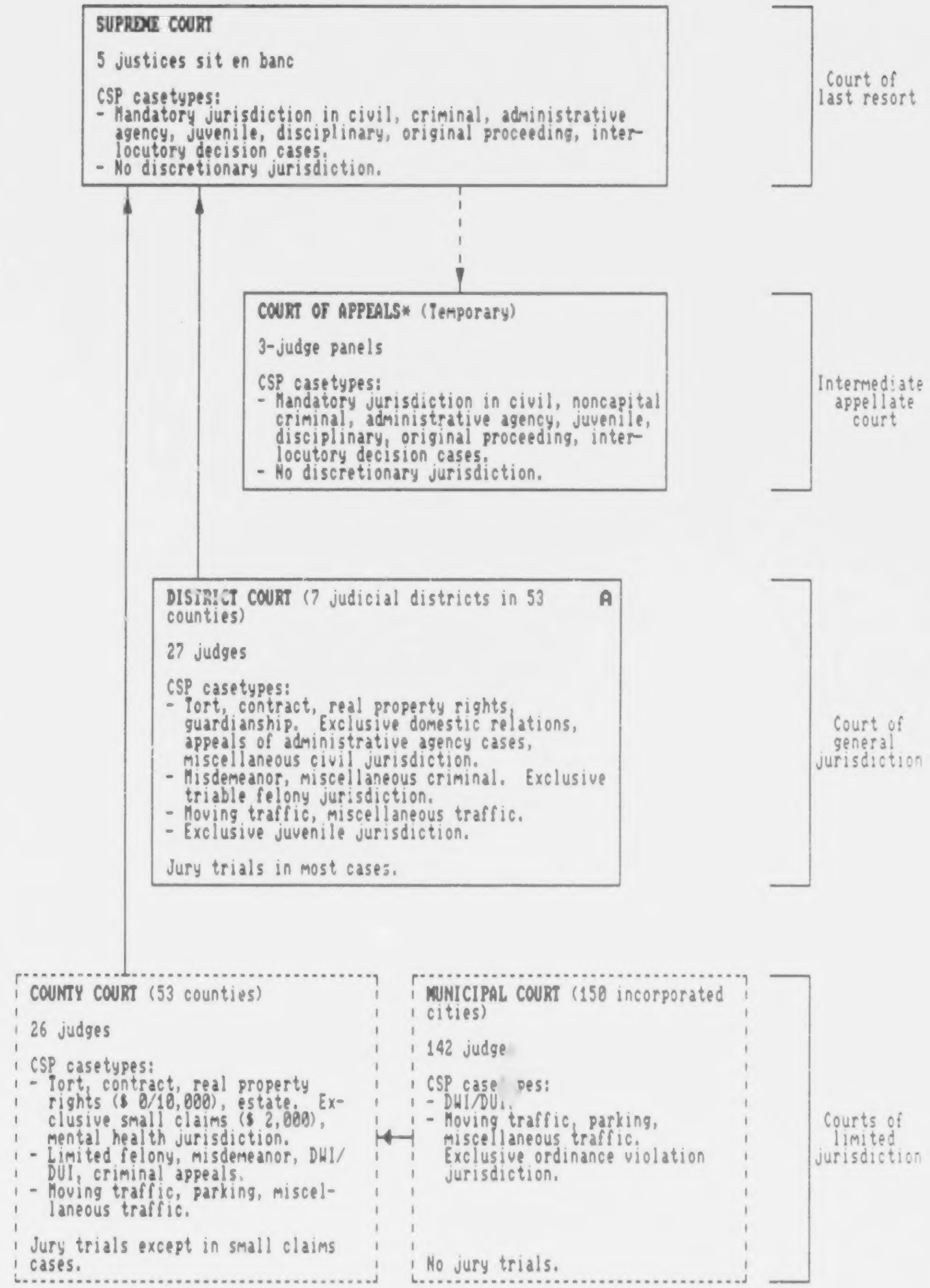
162 judges and 644 magistrates of which approximately 70 magistrates are part-time

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000). Exclusive small claims ($ 1,500), non-adoption domestic relations, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, limited felony, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in civil cases only.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NORTH DAKOTA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

COURT OF APPEALS* (Temporary)

3-judge panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

DISTRICT COURT (7 judicial districts in 53 counties) **A**

27 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, guardianship. Exclusive domestic relations, appeals of administrative agency cases, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

COUNTY COURT (53 counties)

26 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), estate. Exclusive small claims ($ 2,000), mental health jurisdiction.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials except in small claims cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (150 incorporated cities)

142 judges

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

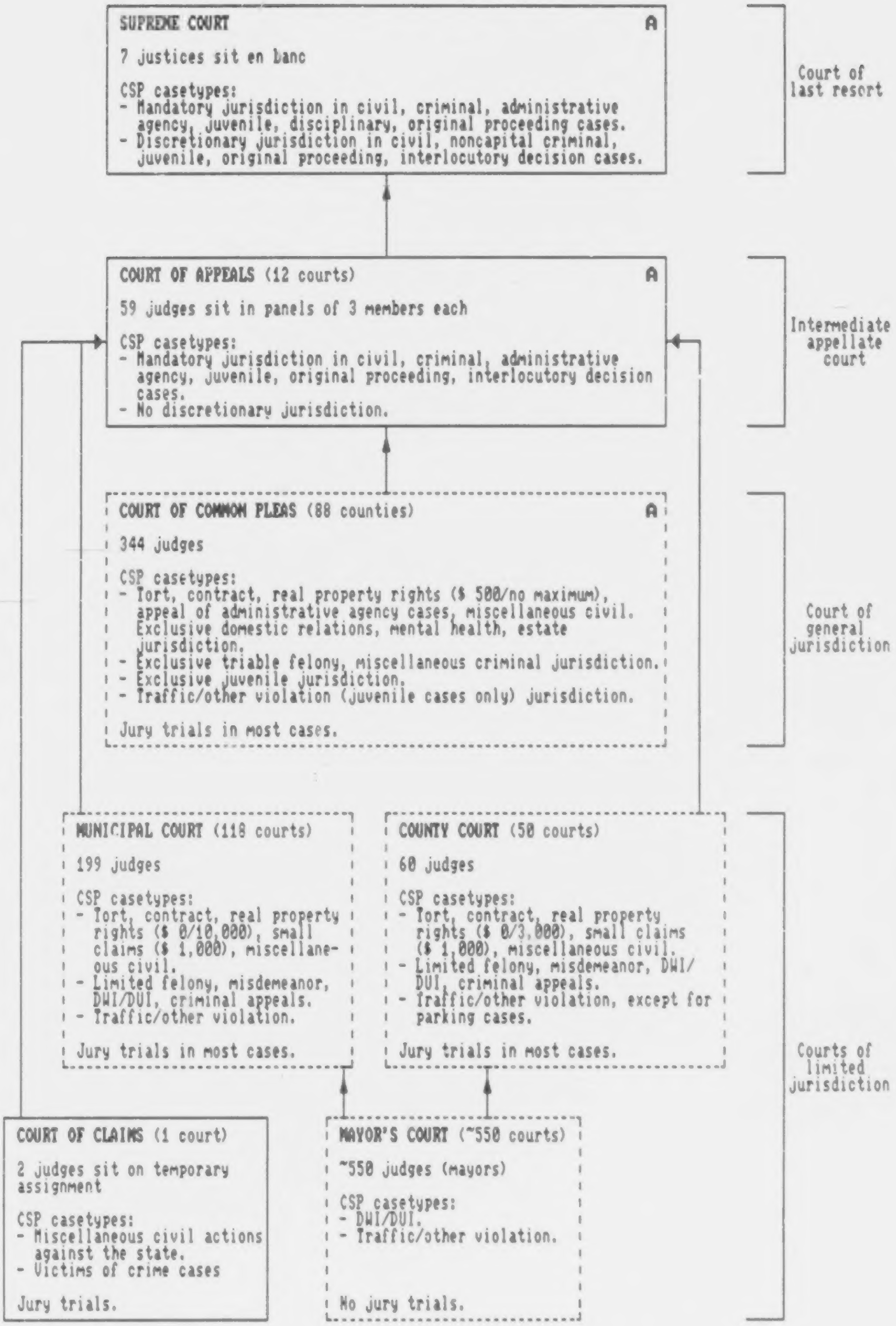
No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

* Effective July 1, 1987 through January 1, 1990, a temporary Court of Appeals is established to exercise appellate and original jurisdiction as delegated by the Supreme Court.

OHIO COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (12 courts) A

59 judges sit in panels of 3 members each

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (88 counties) A

344 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 500/no maximum), appeal of administrative agency cases, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation (juvenile cases only) jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (118 courts)

199 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 1,000), miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

COUNTY COURT (50 courts)

60 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,000), small claims ($ 1,000), miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation, except for parking cases.

Jury trials in most cases.

COURT OF CLAIMS (1 court)

2 judges sit on temporary assignment

CSP casetypes:
- Miscellaneous civil actions against the state.
- Victims of crime cases

Jury trials.

MAYOR'S COURT (~550 courts)

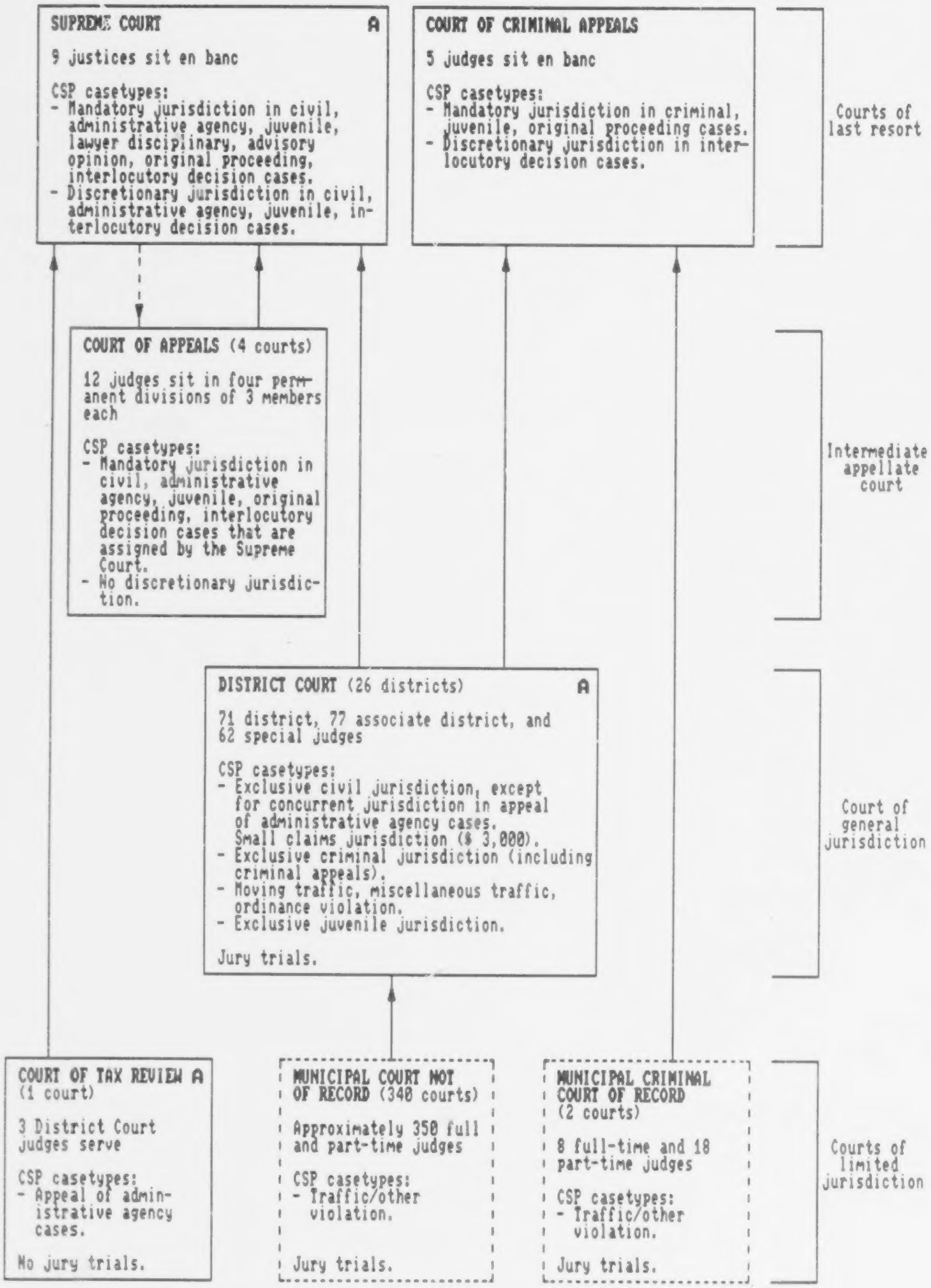
~550 judges (mayors)

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

OKLAHOMA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

9 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

5 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Courts of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (4 courts)

12 judges sit in four permanent divisions of 3 members each

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases that are assigned by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (26 districts) A

71 district, 77 associate district, and 62 special judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction, except for concurrent jurisdiction in appeal of administrative agency cases. Small claims jurisdiction ($ 3,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

COURT OF TAX REVIEW A
(1 court)

3 District Court judges serve

CSP casetypes:
- Appeal of administrative agency cases.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT NOT OF RECORD (340 courts)

Approximately 350 full and part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL CRIMINAL COURT OF RECORD
(2 courts)

8 full-time and 18 part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

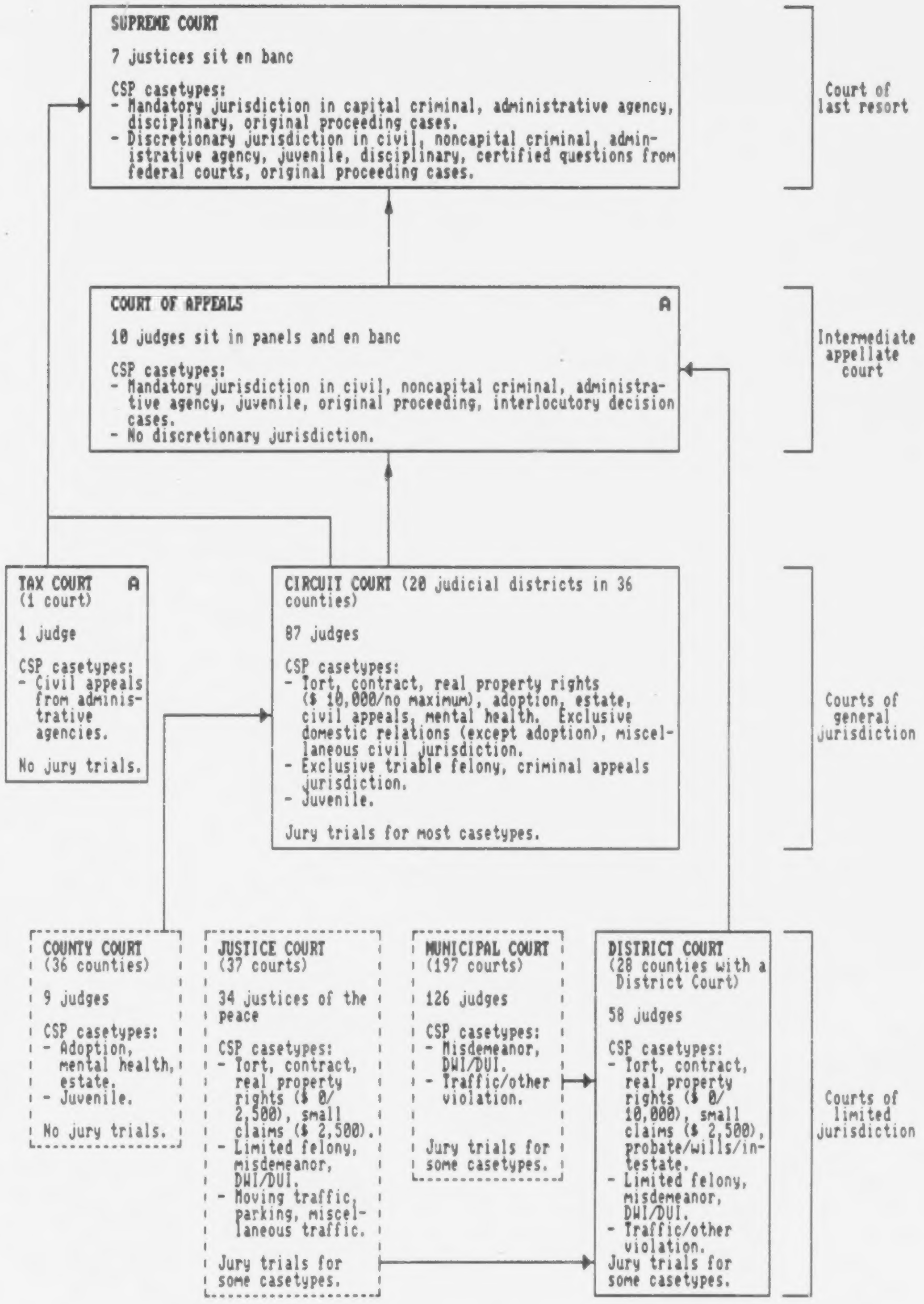
Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

Oklahoma has a Workers' Compensation Court, which hears complaints that are handled exclusively by administrative agencies in other states.

OREGON COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

10 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

TAX COURT A
(1 court)

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Civil appeals from administrative agencies.

No jury trials.

CIRCUIT COURT (20 judicial districts in 36 counties)

87 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 10,000/no maximum), adoption, estate, civil appeals, mental health. Exclusive domestic relations (except adoption), miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials for most casetypes.

Courts of general jurisdiction

COUNTY COURT
(36 counties)

9 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Adoption, mental health, estate.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

JUSTICE COURT
(37 courts)

34 justices of the peace

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims ($ 2,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials for some casetypes.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(197 courts)

126 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials for some casetypes.

DISTRICT COURT
(28 counties with a District Court)

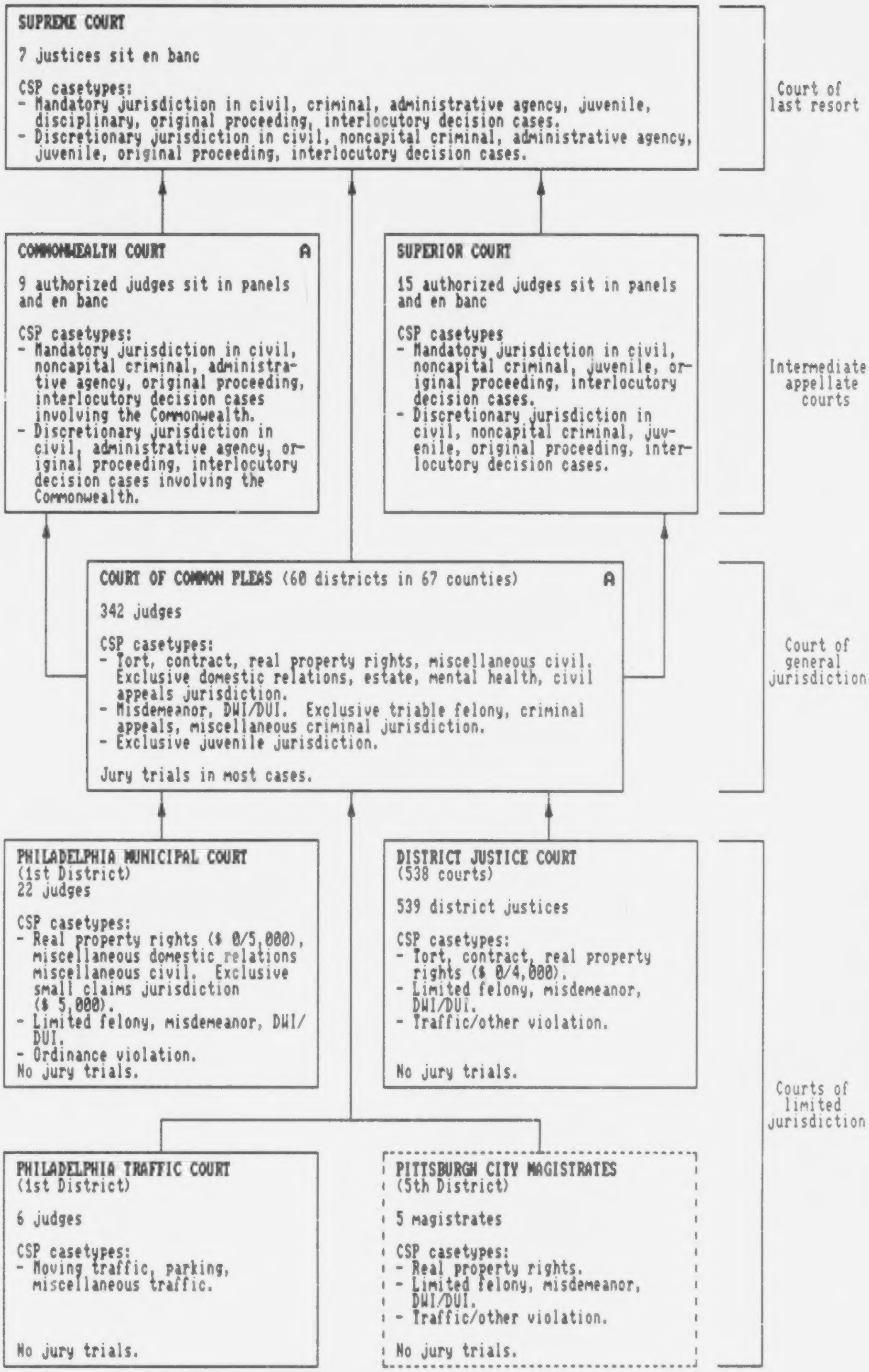
58 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 2,500), probate/wills/intestate.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials for some casetypes.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

PENNSYLVANIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COMMONWEALTH COURT A

9 authorized judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases involving the Commonwealth.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases involving the Commonwealth.

SUPERIOR COURT

15 authorized judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (60 districts in 67 counties) A

342 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

PHILADELPHIA MUNICIPAL COURT
(1st District)
22 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights ($ 0/5,000), miscellaneous domestic relations miscellaneous civil. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 5,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Ordinance violation.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT JUSTICE COURT
(538 courts)

539 district justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/4,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

PHILADELPHIA TRAFFIC COURT
(1st District)

6 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

No jury trials.

PITTSBURGH CITY MAGISTRATES
(5th District)

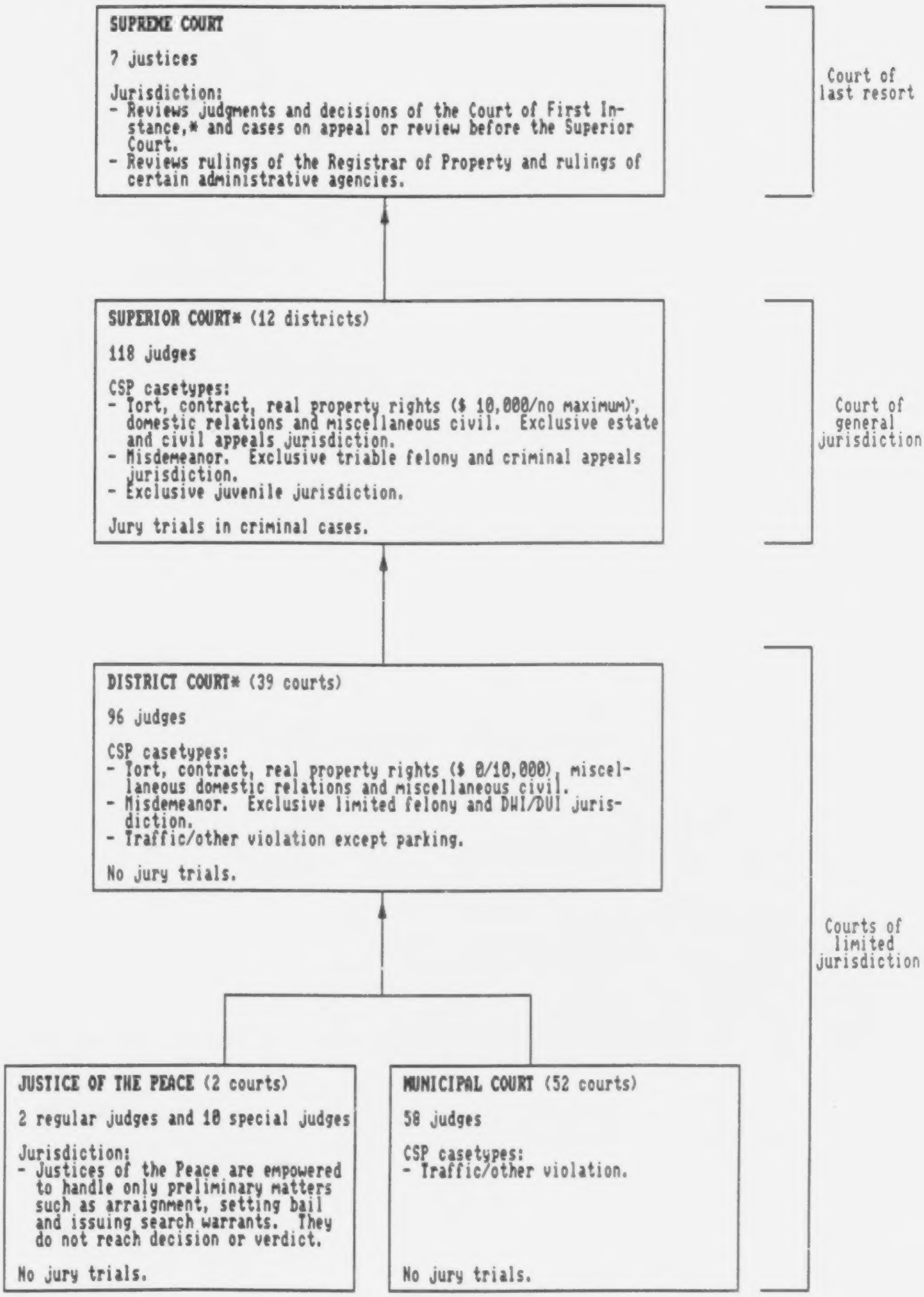
5 magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate courts
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

PUERTO RICO COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



Court of last resort

SUPREME COURT

7 justices

Jurisdiction:
- Reviews judgments and decisions of the Court of First Instance,* and cases on appeal or review before the Superior Court.
- Reviews rulings of the Registrar of Property and rulings of certain administrative agencies.

Court of general jurisdiction

SUPERIOR COURT* (12 districts)

118 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 10,000/no maximum), domestic relations and miscellaneous civil. Exclusive estate and civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony and criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in criminal cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT* (39 courts)

96 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), miscellaneous domestic relations and miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive limited felony and DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation except parking.

No jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (2 courts)

2 regular judges and 10 special judges

Jurisdiction:
- Justices of the Peace are empowered to handle only preliminary matters such as arraignment, setting bail and issuing search warrants. They do not reach decision or verdict.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (52 courts)

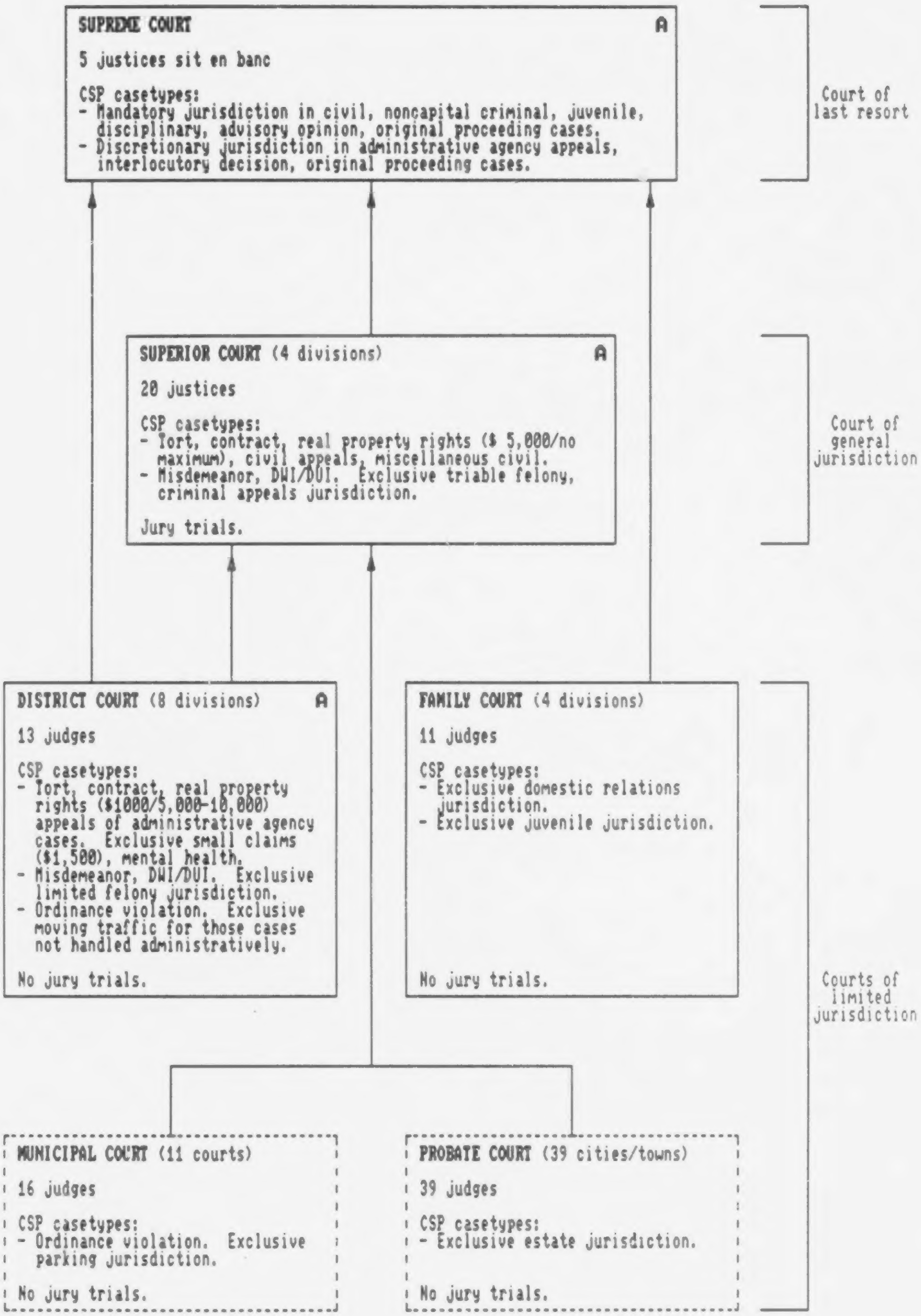
50 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

* The Court of First Instance consists of two divisions: the Superior Court and the District Court.

RHODE ISLAND COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency appeals, interlocutory decision, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (4 divisions) A

20 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 5,000/no maximum), civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (8 divisions) A

13 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($1000/5,000-10,000) appeals of administrative agency cases. Exclusive small claims ($1,500), mental health.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Ordinance violation. Exclusive moving traffic for those cases not handled administratively.

No jury trials.

FAMILY COURT (4 divisions)

11 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (11 courts)

16 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Ordinance violation. Exclusive parking jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (39 cities/towns)

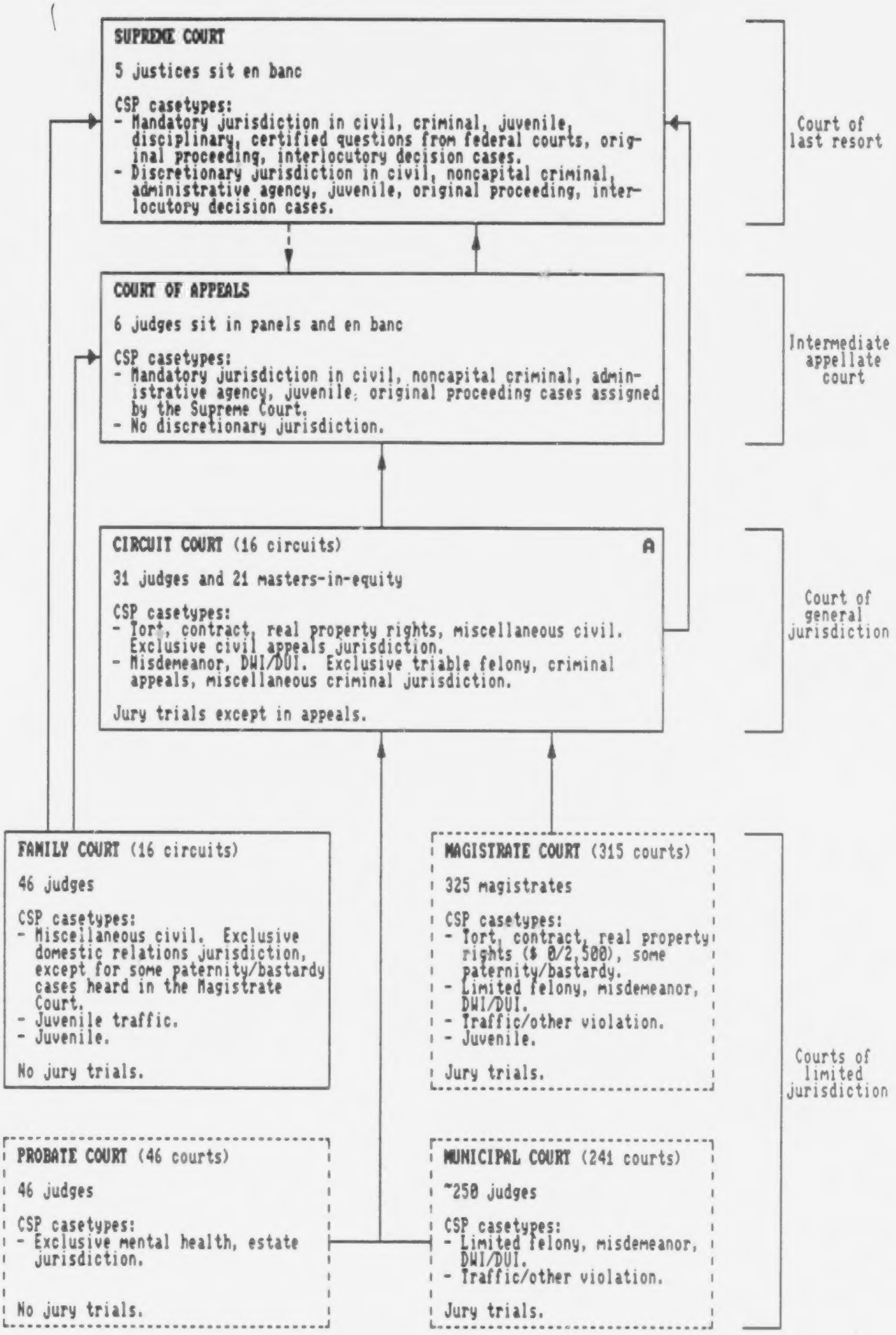
39 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

SOUTH CAROLINA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS

6 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases assigned by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

CIRCUIT COURT (16 circuits) A

31 judges and 21 masters-in-equity

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials except in appeals.

FAMILY COURT (16 circuits)

46 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction, except for some paternity/bastardy cases heard in the Magistrate Court.
- Juvenile traffic.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

MAGISTRATE COURT (315 courts)

325 magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), some paternity/bastardy.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (46 courts)

46 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive mental health, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (241 courts)

~250 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

SOUTH DAKOTA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in advisory opinions for the state executive, interlocutory decision, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

CIRCUIT COURT (8 circuits) A

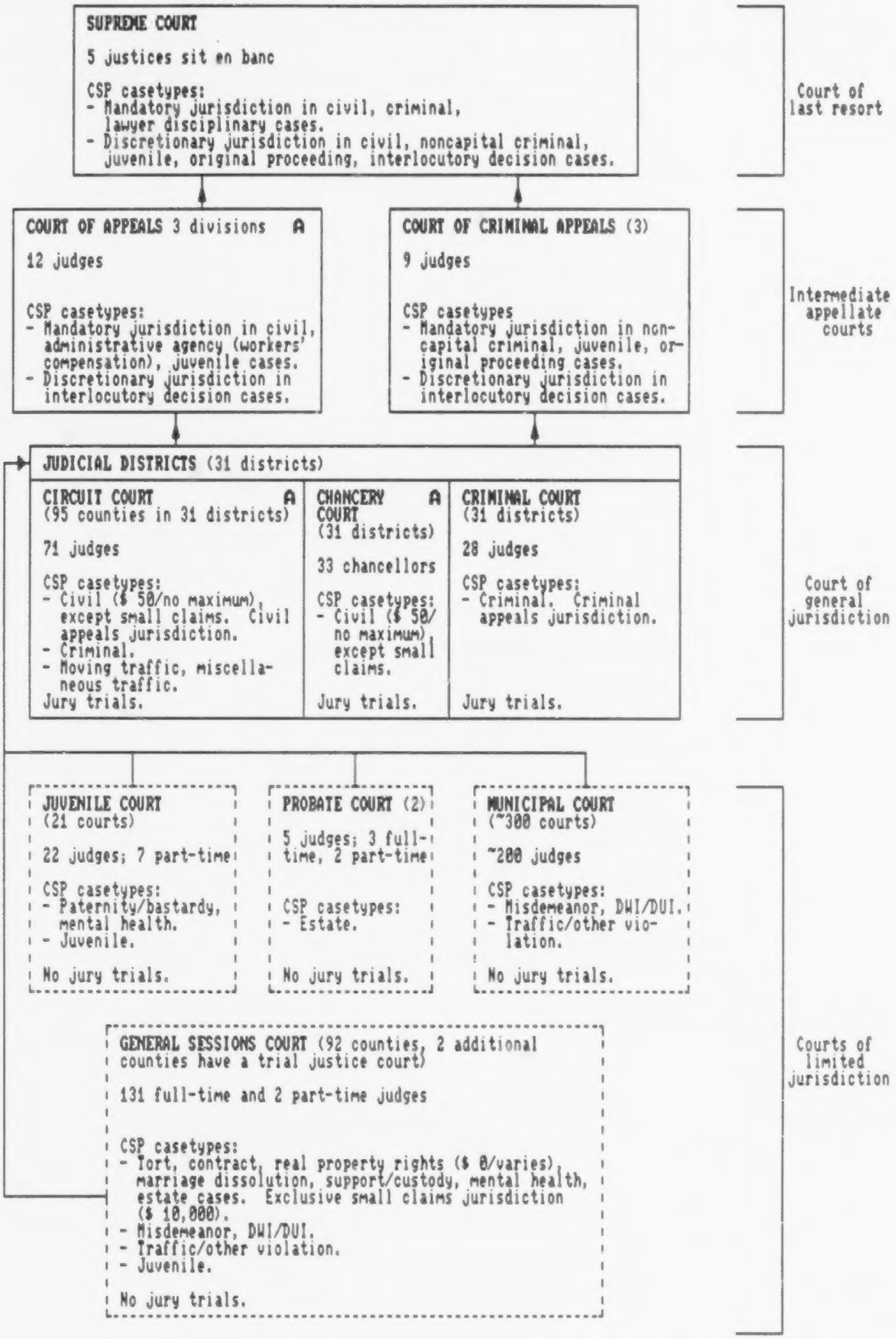
36 judges, 18 law magistrates, 9 part-time lay magistrates, 87 full-time clerk magistrates, and 46 part-time clerk magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction (except for uncontested parking which is handled administratively).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials except in small claims.

Court of general jurisdiction

TENNESSEE COURT STRUCTURE, 1989


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate courts
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
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SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, lawyer disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS 3 divisions

12 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency (workers' compensation), juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS (3)

9 judges

CSP casetypes
- Mandatory jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS (31 districts)

CIRCUIT COURT
(95 counties in 31 districts)

71 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Civil ($ 50/no maximum), except small claims. Civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Criminal.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

CHANCERY COURT
(31 districts)

33 chancellors

CSP casetypes:
- Civil ($ 50/ no maximum), except small claims.

Jury trials.

CRIMINAL COURT
(31 districts)

28 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Criminal. Criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

JUVENILE COURT
(21 courts)

22 judges; 7 part-time

CSP casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, mental health.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (2)

5 judges; 3 full-time, 2 part-time

CSP casetypes:
- Estate.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(~300 courts)

~200 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

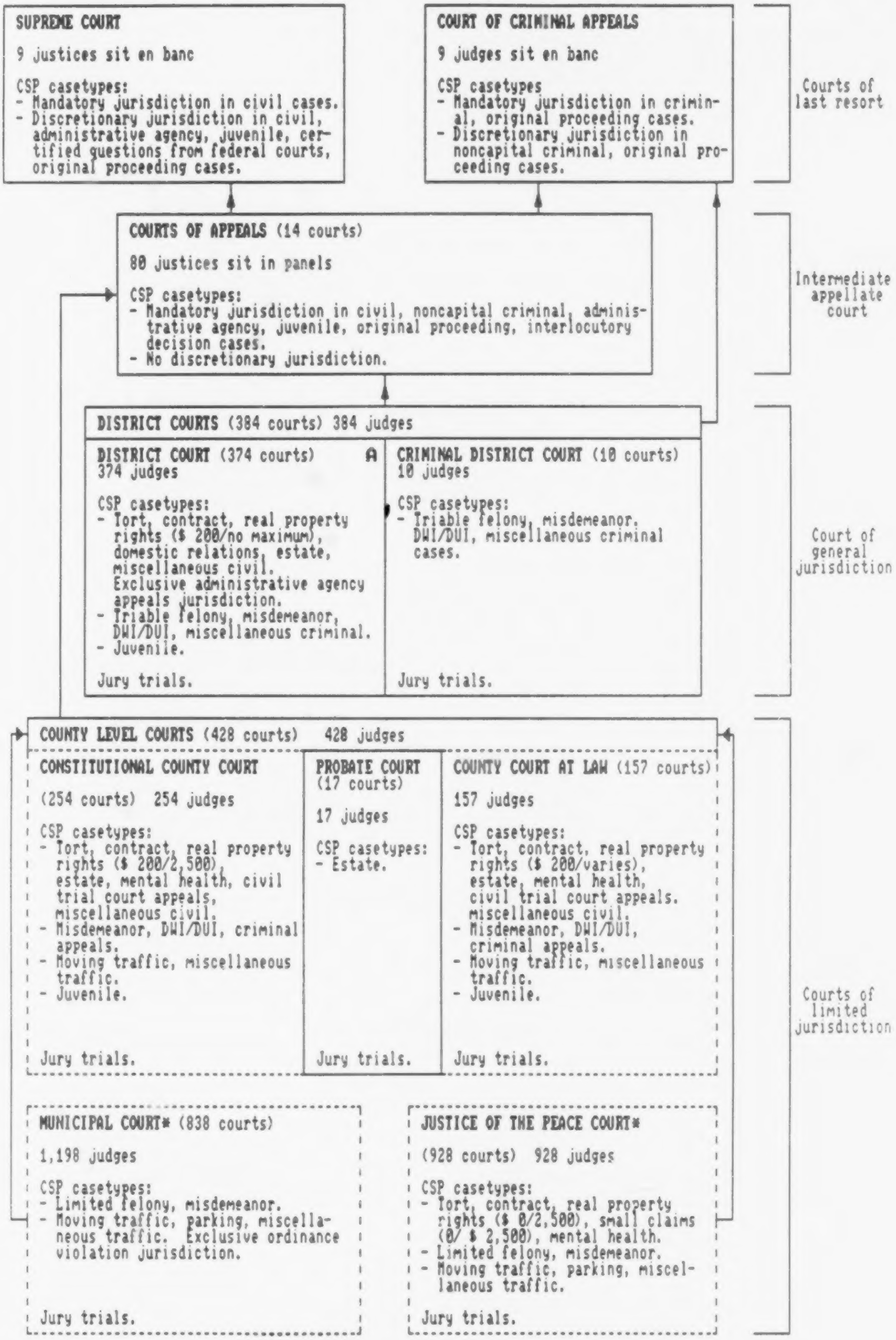
GENERAL SESSIONS COURT (92 counties, 2 additional counties have a trial justice court)

131 full-time and 2 part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/varies), marriage dissolution, support/custody, mental health, estate cases. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 10,000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

TEXAS COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

9 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.

Courts of last resort

COURTS OF APPEALS (14 courts)

80 justices sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURTS (384 courts) 384 judges

DISTRICT COURT (374 courts) A
374 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 200/no maximum), domestic relations, estate, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT (10 courts)
10 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Triable felony, misdemeanor. DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal cases.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

COUNTY LEVEL COURTS (428 courts) 428 judges

CONSTITUTIONAL COUNTY COURT

(254 courts) 254 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 200/2,500) estate, mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT
(17 courts)

17 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Estate.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT AT LAW (157 courts)

157 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 200/varies), estate, mental health, civil trial court appeals. miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT* (838 courts)

1,198 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT*

(928 courts) 928 judges

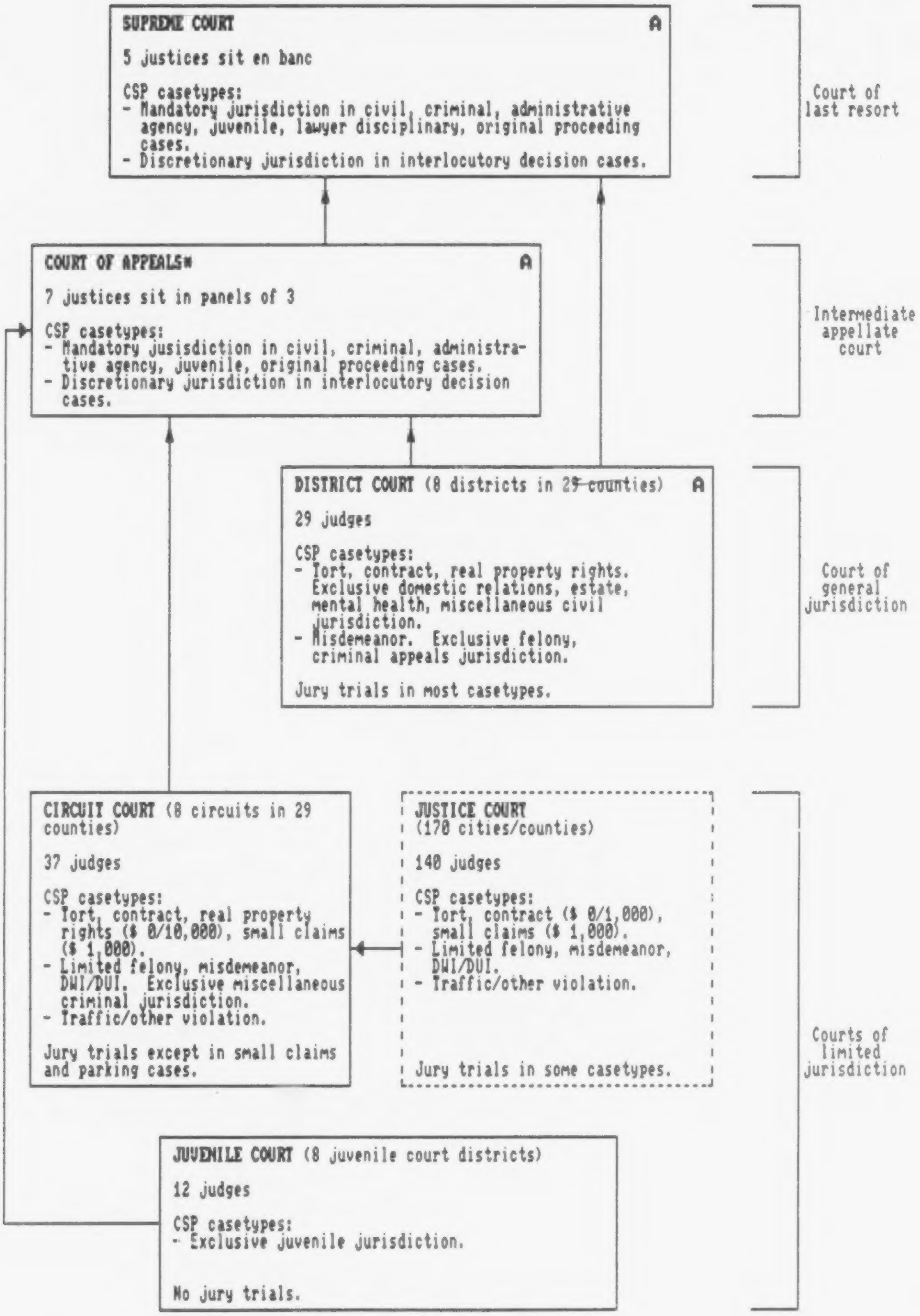
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims (0/ $ 2,500), mental health.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* Some Municipal and Justice of the Peace Courts may appeal to the District Court.

UTAH COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS* A

7 justices sit in panels of 3

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jusisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (8 districts in 29 counties) A

29 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations, estate, mental health, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most casetypes.

Court of general jurisdiction

CIRCUIT COURT (8 circuits in 29 counties)

37 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 1,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials except in small claims and parking cases.

JUSTICE COURT (170 cities/counties)

140 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/1,000), small claims ($ 1,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in some casetypes.

JUVENILE COURT (8 juvenile court districts)

12 judges

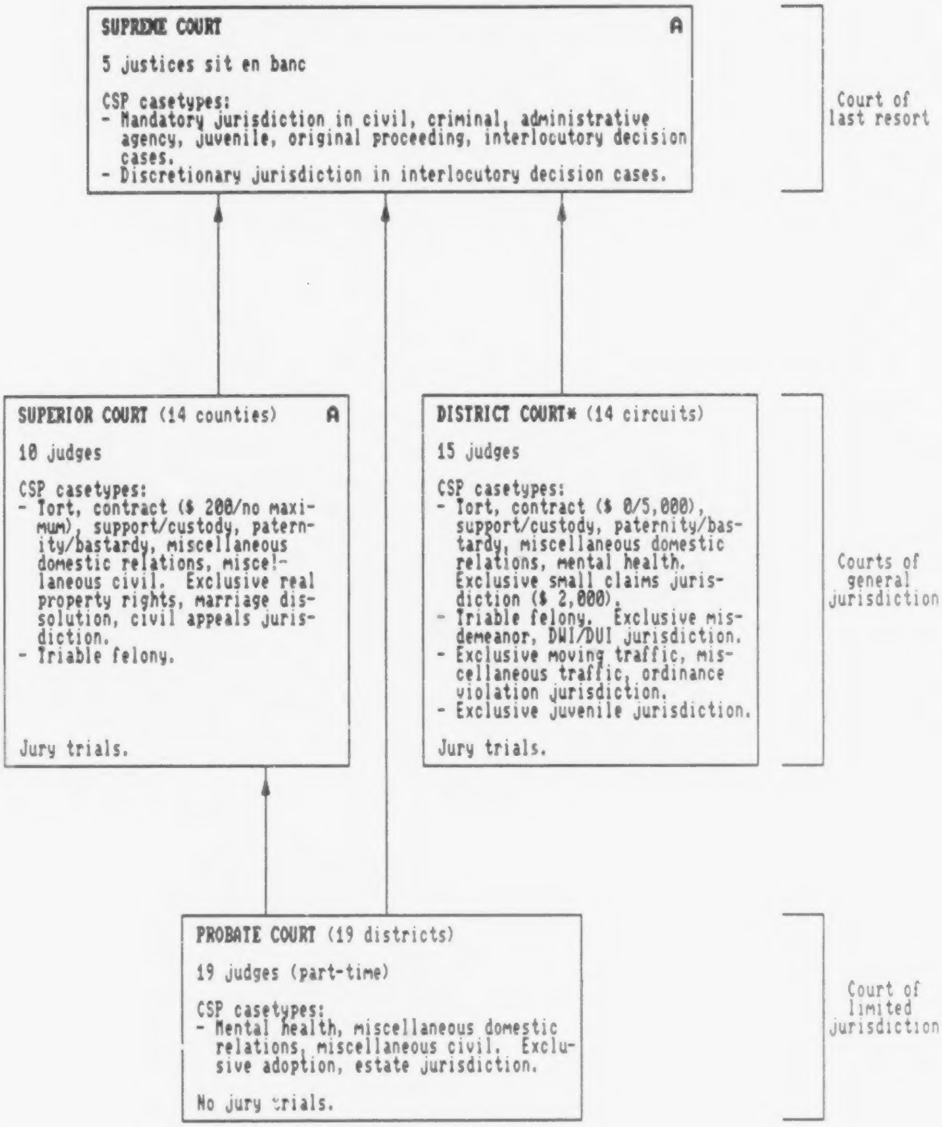
CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* The Court of Appeals became operational on February 1, 1987.

VERMONT COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (14 counties) A

10 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 200/no maximum), support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive real property rights, marriage dissolution, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Triable felony.

Jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT* (14 circuits)

15 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/5,000), support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Triable felony. Exclusive misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

PROBATE COURT (19 districts)

19 judges (part-time)

CSP casetypes:
- Mental health, miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

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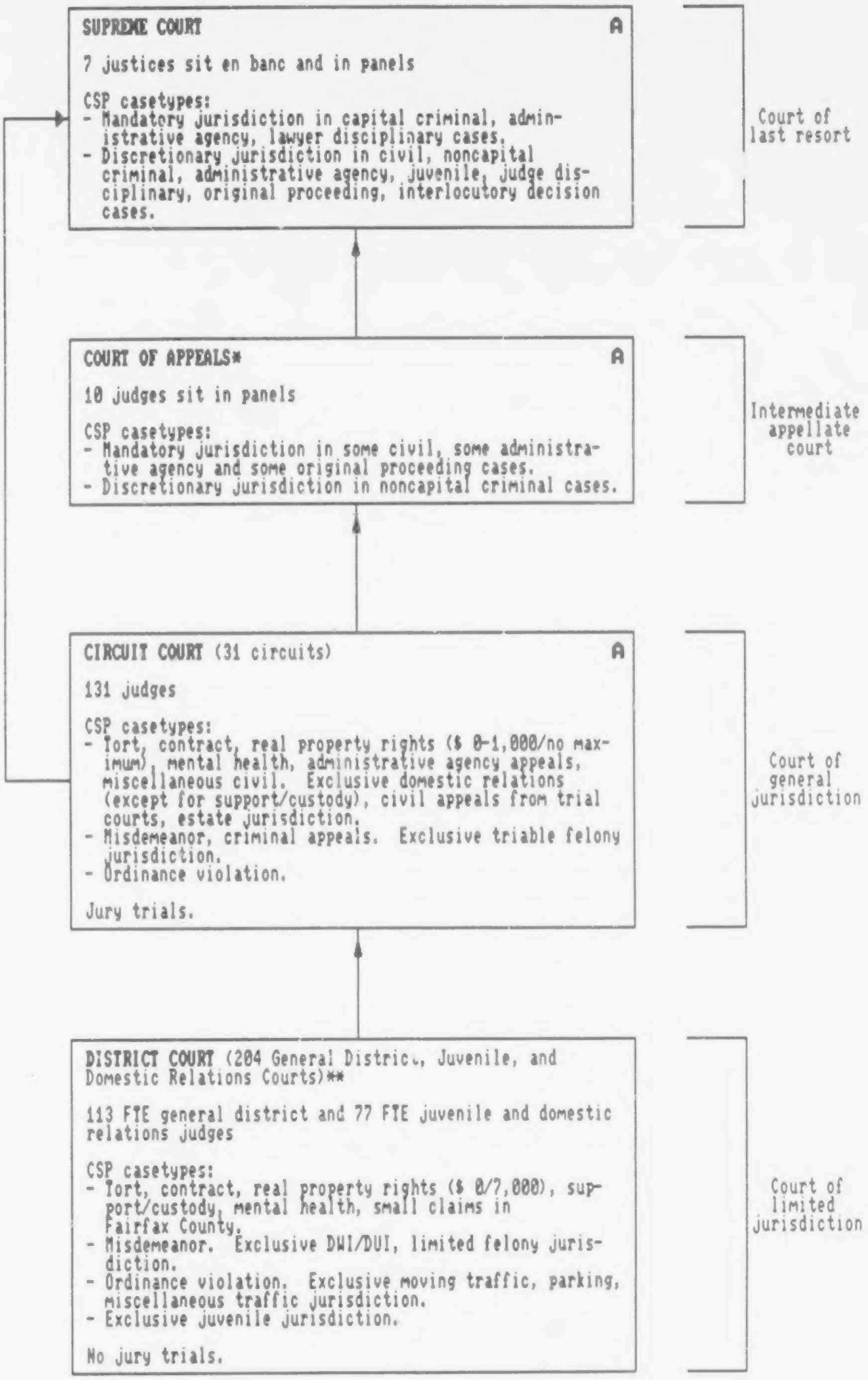
* The District Court, although created as a court of limited jurisdiction, has steadily increased its scope to include almost all criminal matters. In 1983, the District Court was granted jurisdiction over all criminal cases, and has become the court of general jurisdiction for most criminal matters. A small number of appeals go to the Superior Court.

VIRGINIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc and in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital criminal, administrative agency, lawyer disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, judge disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS* A

10 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in some civil, some administrative agency and some original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in noncapital criminal cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (31 circuits) A

131 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0-1,000/no maximum), mental health, administrative agency appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations (except for support/custody), civil appeals from trial courts, estate jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, criminal appeals. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Ordinance violation.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (204 General District, Juvenile, and Domestic Relations Courts)**

113 FTE general district and 77 FTE juvenile and domestic relations judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/7,000), support/custody, mental health, small claims in Fairfax County.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive DWI/DUI, limited felony jurisdiction.
- Ordinance violation. Exclusive moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

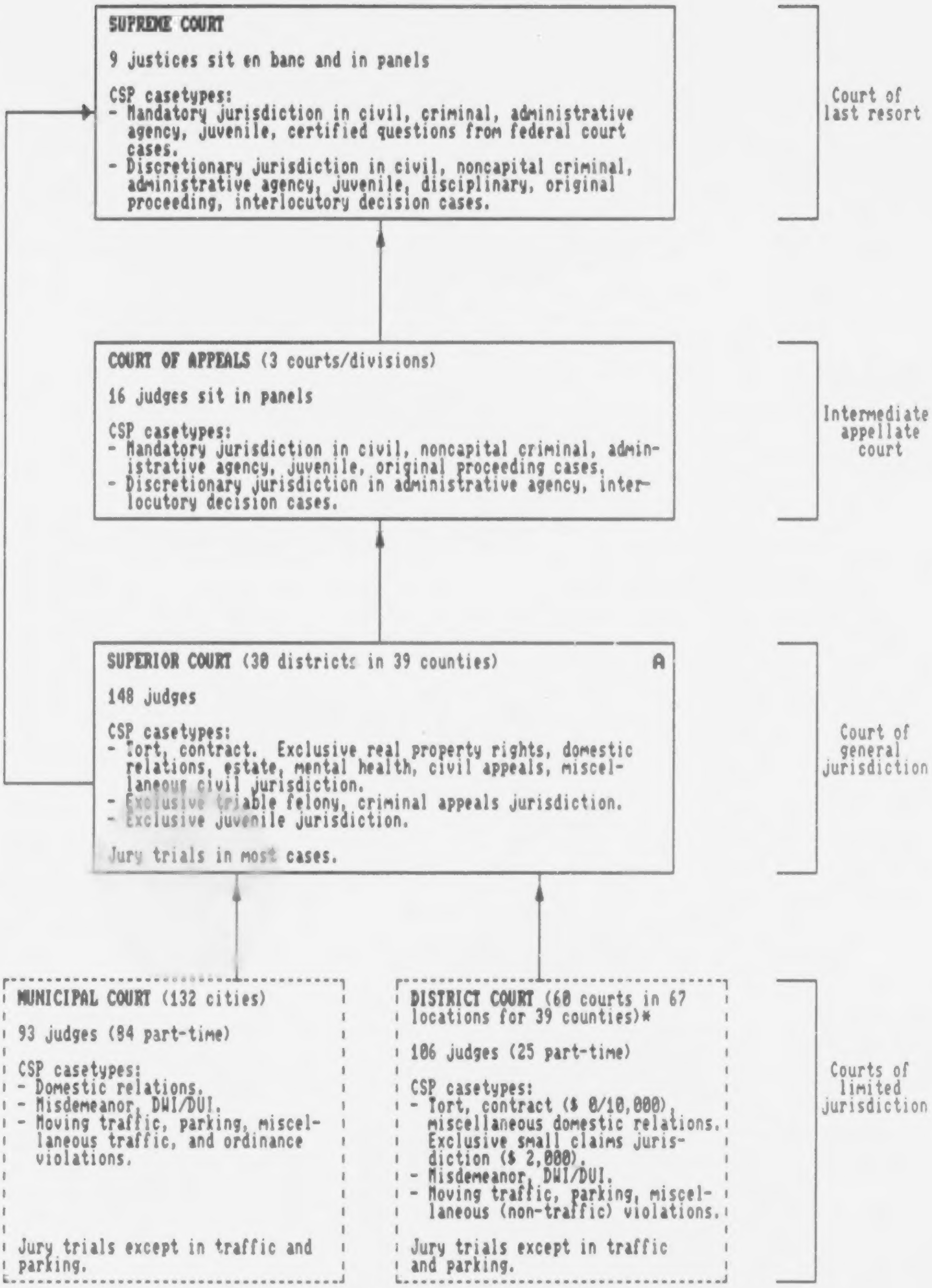
No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

* The Virginia Court of Appeals became operational on January 1, 1985.

** The District Court is referred to as the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court when hearing juvenile and domestic relations cases, and as the General District Court for the balance of the cases.

WASHINGTON COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit en banc and in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal court cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS (3 courts/divisions)

16 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency, interlocutory decision cases.

SUPERIOR COURT (30 districts in 39 counties) A

140 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract. Exclusive real property rights, domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (132 cities)

93 judges (84 part-time)

CSP casetypes:
- Domestic relations.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic, and ordinance violations.

Jury trials except in traffic and parking.

DISTRICT COURT (60 courts in 67 locations for 39 counties)*

106 judges (25 part-time)

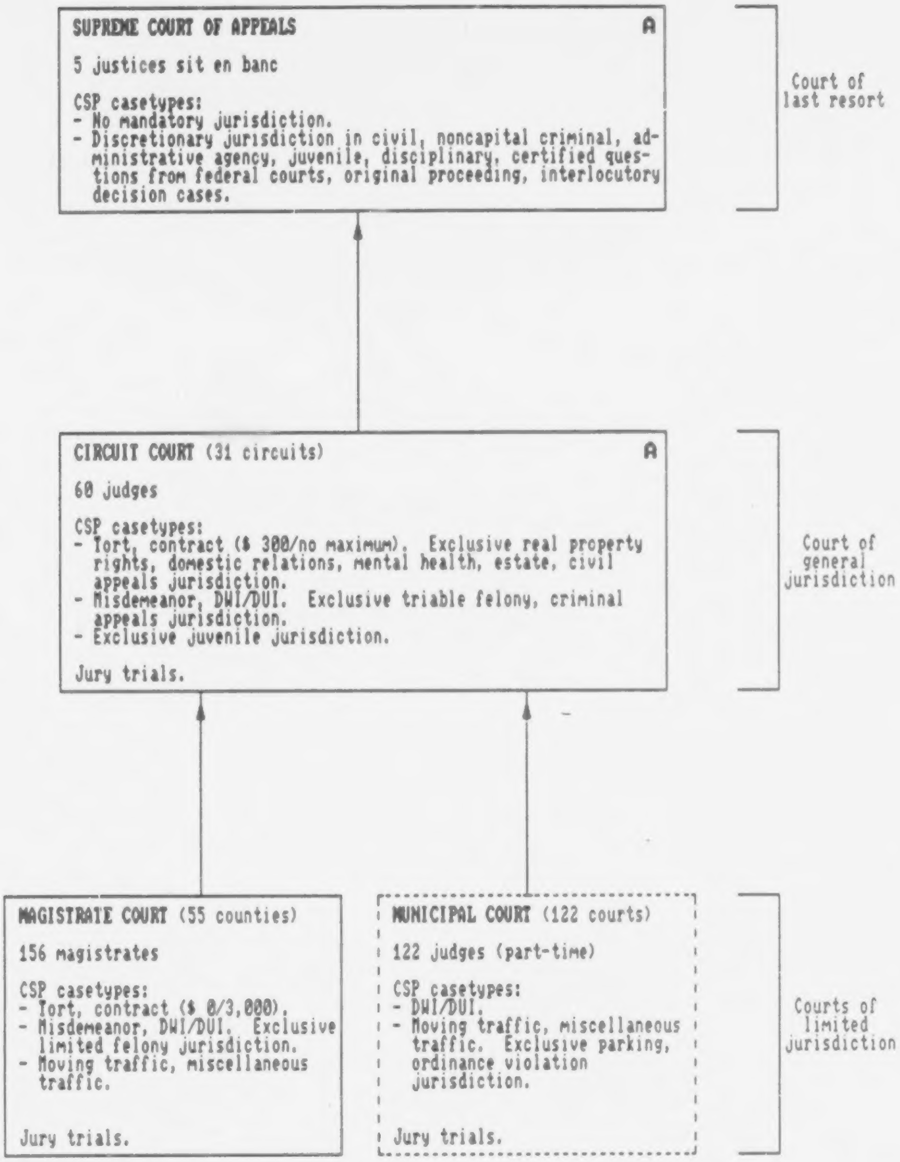
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/10,000), miscellaneous domestic relations. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous (non-traffic) violations.

Jury trials except in traffic and parking.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

* District Court provides services to municipalities that do not have a Municipal Court.

WEST VIRGINIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- No mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

CIRCUIT COURT (31 circuits)

60 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 300/no maximum). Exclusive real property rights, domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

MAGISTRATE COURT (55 counties)

156 magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/3,000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

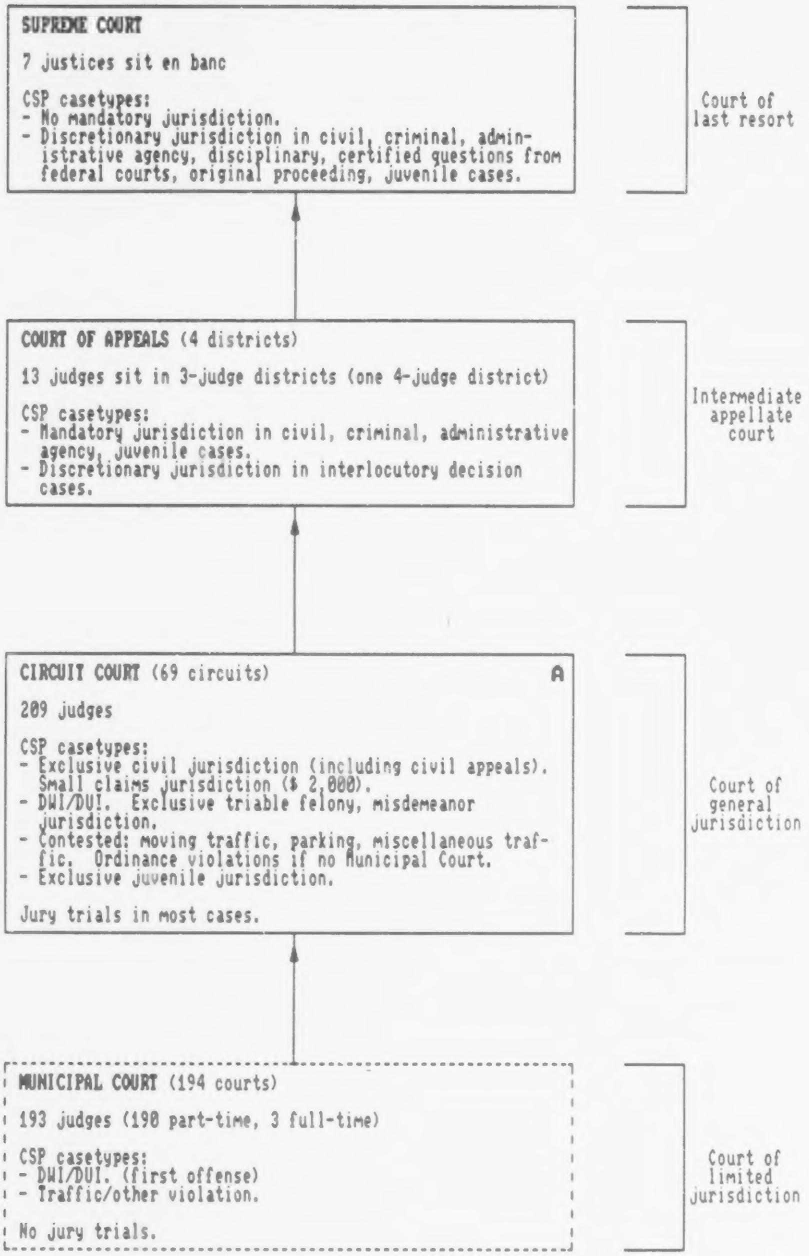
MUNICIPAL COURT (122 courts)

122 judges (part-time)

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive parking, ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

WISCONSIN COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- No mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, juvenile cases.

COURT OF APPEALS (4 districts)

13 judges sit in 3-judge districts (one 4-judge district)

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

CIRCUIT COURT (69 circuits)

209 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, misdemeanor jurisdiction.
- Contested: moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Ordinance violations if no Municipal Court.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (194 courts)

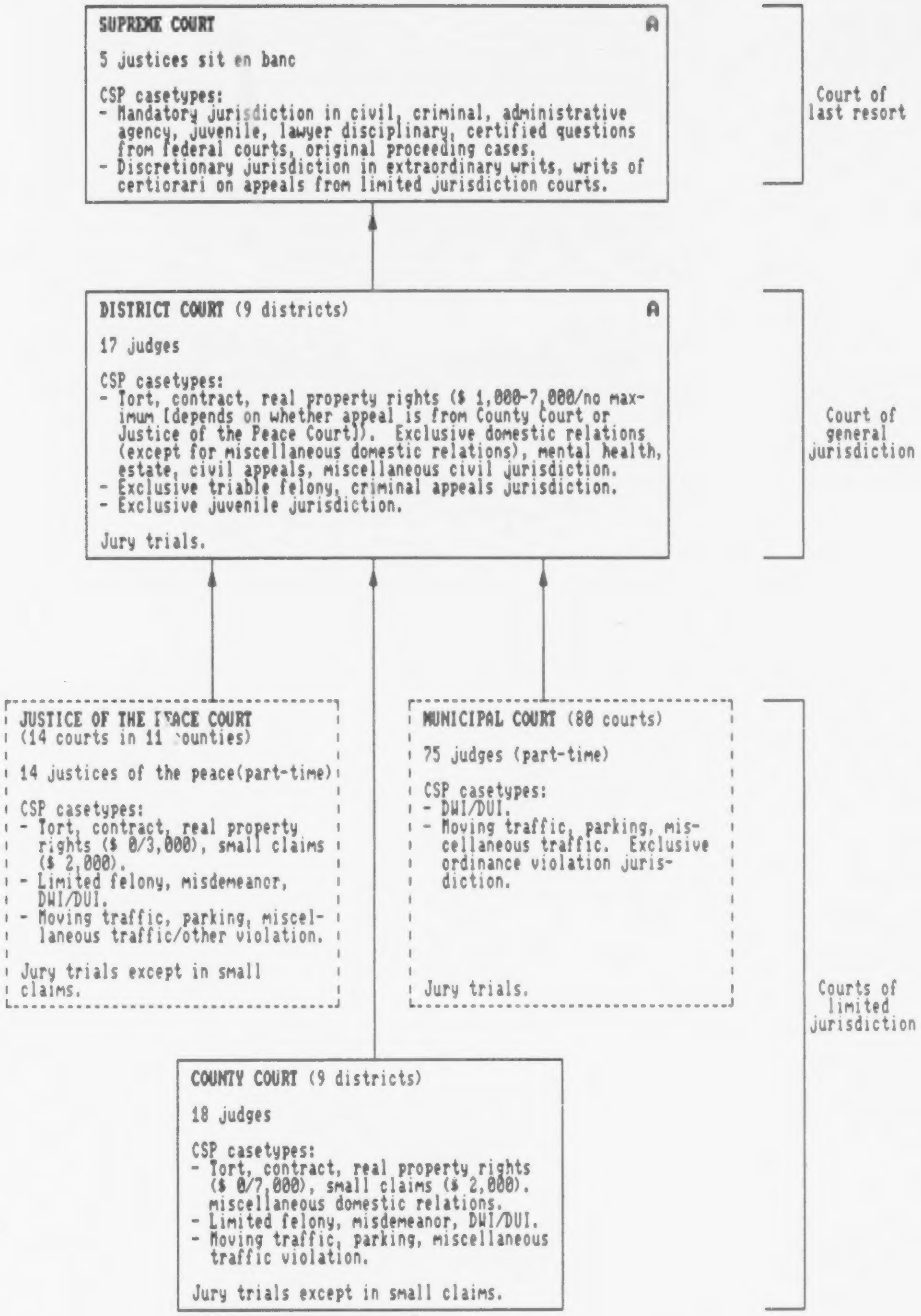
193 judges (190 part-time, 3 full-time)

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI. (first offense)
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
A
Court of general jurisdiction
Court of limited jurisdiction

WYOMING COURT STRUCTURE, 1989



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in extraordinary writs, writs of certiorari on appeals from limited jurisdiction courts.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (9 districts) A

17 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 1,000-7,000/no maximum [depends on whether appeal is from County Court or Justice of the Peace Court]). Exclusive domestic relations (except for miscellaneous domestic relations), mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(14 courts in 11 counties)

14 justices of the peace(part-time)

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,000), small claims ($ 2,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic/other violation.

Jury trials except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (80 courts)

75 judges (part-time)

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (9 districts)

18 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/7,000), small claims ($ 2,000). miscellaneous domestic relations.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic violation.

Jury trials except in small claims.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

PART 5

JURISDICTION AND STATE COURT REPORTING PRACTICES

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FIGURE A: Reporting Periods for All State Courts, 1989

	Reporting periods			
State	January 1, 1989 to December 31, 1989	July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1989	September 1, 1988 to August 31, 1989	October 1, 1988 to September 30, 1989
Alabama	X Municipal Court			X
Alaska		X		
Arizona		X		
Arkansas		X		
California		X		
Colorado		X		
Connecticut	X Probate Court	X		
Delaware		X		
District of Columbia	X			
Florida	X			
Georgia	X Court of Appeals Superior Court State Court Juvenile Court Probate Court	X Magistrate Court	X Supreme Court (Aug. 1, 1988 - July 31, 1989)	
Hawaii		X		
Idaho	X			
Illinois	X			
Indiana	X			
Iowa	X			
Kansas		X		
Kentucky		X		
Louisiana	X			
Maine		X		
Maryland		X		
Massachusetts		X Trial Courts		X Supreme Judicial Court Appeals Court
Michigan	X Court of Appeals Trial Courts	X Supreme Court		
Minnesota	X			
Mississippi	X Supreme Court			
Missouri		X		
Montana	X Supreme Court District Court	X City Court Justice of the Peace Court Municipal Court		
Nebraska	X District Court County Court Separate Juvenile	X Workers' Compensation Court		X Supreme Court
Nevada	X Supreme Court District Court			
New Hampshire	X Supreme Court Superior Court District Court Municipal Court	X Probate Court		

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FIGURE A: Reporting Periods for All State Courts, 1989. (continued)

	Reporting periods			
State	January 1, 1989 to December 31, 1989	July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1989	September 1, 1988 to August 31, 1989	October 1, 1988 to September 30, 1989
New Jersey		X		
New Mexico		X		
New York	X			
North Carolina		X		
North Dakota	X			
Ohio	X			
Oklahoma		X		
Oregon	X			
Pennsylvania	X			
Puerto Rico		X		
Rhode Island	X Trial Courts			X Supreme Court
South Carolina	X			
South Dakota		X		
Tennessee		X		
Texas			X	
Utah	X Supreme Court	X Trial Courts		
Vermont		X		
Virginia	X			
Washington	X			
West Virginia	X			
Wisconsin	X			
Wyoming	X			

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, an "X" means that all of the trial and appellate courts in that state report data for the time period indicated by the column.

FOOTNOTES

Source: Data were gathered from the 1989 State Trial and Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
ALABAMA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Civil Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
ALASKA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
ARIZONA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X-CRIM	0	0	X*	X	0	0	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X-CRIM*	X*	0	X*	X (except industrial cases & civil petition for special action)	X (only industrial cases & civil petition for special action)	0	X	0
ARKANSAS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	X	0
CALIFORNIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X*	X	0	0	X (death penalty only)	COLR (if petition for review of IAC)	X	0	0
Courts of Appeal	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
COLORADO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
CONNECTICUT:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if motion to open)	0	0
Appellate Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if motion to open or if remand by COLR)	0	0
DELAWARE:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:										
Court of Appeals	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		

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FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
FLORIDA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	IAC	X	0	0
District Courts of Appeal	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	(Adm. Agy. and Workers Comp.)	X	0	0
GEORGIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	X (if new appeal)
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
HAWAII:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	X (original proceeding)	0	0	X
Intermediate Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	(when assigned by COLR)	0	0	0	0	X
IDAHO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X (appeal from trial court)	X (COLR if appeal from IAC)	0	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	(when assigned by COLR)	0	0	0	X	0
ILLINOIS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Appellate Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X		
INDIANA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	(any first filing, notice, record, brief or motion)	X (only death penalty and/or sentence over 10 years)	COLR (if petition for transfer from IAC)	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	(any first filing)	X (precipe)	0	0	0	X

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FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
IOWA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X (if appeal from trial court)	X (COLR if appeal from IAC)	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	TRANSFER	X (if appeal from trial court)	0	X	0	0
KANSAS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X*	X	0	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	X*	X	0	0	0	X
KENTUCKY:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X*	X	X (COLR if review is sought from IAC)	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	X	0	X	0	X	0	0
LOUISIANA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
MAINE:										
Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if remanded)	0	X (if new appeal)
MARYLAND:										
Court of Appeals	COLR	0	X	0	0	X (if direct appeal)	X (IAC if appeal from IAC)	0	0	X
Court of Special Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
MASSACHUSETTS:										
Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Appeals Court	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	X (if originally dismissed as premature)	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
MICHIGAN:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X (if remanded w/jurisdiction retained)	0	X (if new appeal)
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	X
MINNESOTA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
MISSISSIPPI:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
MISSOURI:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
MONTANA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X (notice plus any other filing: fee, record, motion)	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
NEBRASKA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	
NEVADA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
NEW HAMPSHIRE:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X (if remanded & jurisdiction retained)	0	X
NEW JERSEY:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	(COLR if direct appeal, otherwise with IAC)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Appellate Division of Superior Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		

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FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
NEW MEXICO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X (within 30 days of notice)	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	X (within 30 days of notice)	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
NEW YORK:										
Court of Appeals	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X (if remit for specific issues)	0	X (if remand for new trial)
Appellate Terms of Supreme Court	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
NORTH CAROLINA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X (if direct appeal)	X (COLR if appeal from IAC)	X (if petition to rehear)	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X (if reconsidering dismissal)	X	0
NORTH DAKOTA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
OHIO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	IAC	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X*	0	X	0	0
OKLAHOMA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X*	0	0	0	X	0	X*	0	X*
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	0	X (notice plus transcript)	0	0	X	0	X*	0	X*
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	TRANSFER	0	COLR	X*	0	X*
OREGON:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		

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FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
PENNSYLVANIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X (direct appeal only)	0	0	X (discretionary certiorari granted)	X*	X*	X (if reinstated to enforce order)	X (if new appeal)	0
Superior Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Commonwealth Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	X (ADM. AGY.)	0	0	X
PUERTO RICO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X-CR	X-CV	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
RHODE ISLAND:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	X
SOUTH CAROLINA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	TRANSFER	0	0	X	0	0
SOUTH DAKOTA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
TENNESSEE:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X (Court of Appeals)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X (Court of Criminal Appeals)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
TEXAS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	0	0	0	(any first filing)	X	X (Court of Crim. Appeals)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X (Civil only)	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
UTAH:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X*	0	0	0	X (court from which appealed)	X (ADM. AGY)	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	X	0

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FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
VERMONT:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if dismissed & reinstated)	0	X (if after final decision or if statistical period has ended)
VIRGINIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
WASHINGTON:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
WEST VIRGINIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (Counted as new filings as of 8/86)	0	0
WISCONSIN:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	(When accepted by court)	0	X	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
WYOMING:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	X

ADM. AGY. = Administrative agency cases only.
CR = Criminal cases only.
CV = Civil cases only.
DP = Death penalty cases only.
COLR = Court of last resort.
IAC = Intermediate appellate court.

FOOTNOTES

Arizona–Supreme Court: Civil cases: A case is counted when the fee is paid within 30 days after trial record is filed.

Arizona–Court of Appeals: Civil cases: A case is counted when the fee is paid within 30 days after trial record is filed. For juvenile/industrial/habeas corpus cases, a case is counted at receipt of notice or at receipt of the trial record.

California–Supreme Court: Cases are counted at the notice of appeal for discretionary review cases from the IAC.

Kansas--Cases are counted at the docketing, which occurs 21 days after a notice of appeal is filed in the trial court.

Kentucky–Cases are counted at either the filing of the brief or request for intermediate relief.

Ohio–Court of Appeals: The clerk of the trial court is also the clerk of the Court of Appeals.

Oklahoma--The notice of appeal refers to the petition in error. The courts do not count reinstated cases as new filings, but do count any subsequent appeal of an earlier decided case as a new filing.

Pennsylvania–Supreme Court: Mandatory cases are filed with the trial court, and discretionary cases are filed with the appellate court.

Utah–Supreme Court: Mandatory appeals are no longer in effect as of 1/1/86; an intermediate court of appeals was established on 1/1/87.

Source: State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, as updated and verified for 1989 by State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE C: Dollar Amount Jurisdiction for Original Tort, Contract, Real Property Rights, and Small Claims Filings in State Trial Courts, 1989

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
ALABAMA:							
Circuit Court	G	$1,500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	$1,500/ $5,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Optional
ALASKA:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$50,000	$5,000	No	Yes	No
ARIZONA:							
Superior Court	G	$500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$1,000	No	Yes	No
ARKANSAS:							
Circuit Court	G	$100/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	$500/ $1,000 (contract only)	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $3,000 (contract and real property)	$300	No	Yes	No
City Court, Police Court	L	--	0/ $300 (contract and real property)	--	--	--	--
CALIFORNIA:							
Superior Court	G	$25,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0/$25,000	$2,000	No	Yes	No
Justice Court	L	--	0/$25,000	$2,000	No	Yes	No
COLORADO:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Water Court	G	0/No maximum (only real property)	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/ $5,000	$2,000	No	Yes	No
CONNECTICUT:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
DELAWARE:							
Court of Chancery	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	0/$15,000	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
Alderman's Court	L	--		$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum (no minimum for real property)	--	$2,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
FLORIDA:							
Circuit Court	G	$5,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	$2,500/ $5,000	$2,500	Yes	Yes	Yes

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FIGURE C: Dollar Amount Jurisdiction for Original Tort, Contract, Real Property Rights, and Small Claims Filings in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
GEORGIA:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	–	No max	Yes	No	Yes
State Court	L	0/No maximum (No real property)	–	No max	Yes	Yes	Yes
Civil Court	L	–	0/ $7,500 0/ 25,000	$7,500 $25,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
Magistrate Court	L	–	0/ $5,000 (No real property)	$5,000	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	–	0/ $7,500	$7,500	No	Yes	Yes
HAWAII:							
Circuit Court	G	$1,000/No maximum	–	–	–	–	
District Court	L	–	0/$10,000 (No maximum in summary possession or ejectment)	0/$2,500 (Except in residential security deposit cases)	No	Yes	Yes
IDAHO:							
District Court:	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
(Magistrates Division)	L	–	0/$10,000	$2,000	No	Yes	No
ILLINOIS:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	–	$2,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
INDIANA:							
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	–	$3,000	No	Yes	Yes
County Court	L	–	0/$10,000	$3,000	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	–	0/$20,000	–	–	–	–
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	–	–	$3,000	No	Yes	Yes
City Court	L	–	0/ $500-$2,500 (No real property)	–	–	–	–
IOWA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	–	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
KANSAS:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	–	$1,000	No	Yes	No
KENTUCKY:							
Circuit Court	G	$4,000/No maximum.	–	–	–	–	–
District Court	L	–	0/ $4,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
LOUISIANA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
City Court, Parish Court	L	–	0/ $5,000	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	–	0/ $1,200	$1,200	No	Yes	Yes
MAINE:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
District Court	L	–	0/$30,000	$1,400	No	Yes	Yes
MARYLAND:							
Circuit Court	G	$2,500/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
District Court	L	–	0/$10,000 (No maximum real property)	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes

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FIGURE C: Dollar Amount Jurisdiction for Original Tort, Contract, Real Property Rights, and Small Claims Filings in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
MASSACHUSETTS:							
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:							
Superior Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
Housing Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	–	$1,500	No	No	Yes
District Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	–	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	–	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
MICHIGAN:							
Circuit Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
District Court	L	–	0/$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	No
Municipal Court	L	–	0/ $1,500	$1,500	No	Yes	No
MINNESOTA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	–	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
MISSISSIPPI:		(NO DATA AVAILABLE)					
MISSOURI:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
(Associate Division)	L	–	0/$15,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
MONTANA:							
District Court	G	$50/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court	L	–	0/ $3,500	$2,500	No	Yes	No
City Court	L	–	0/ $300	–	–	–	–
NEBRASKA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
County Court	L	–	0/$10,000	$1,800	No	Yes	No
NEVADA:							
District Court	G	$1,000/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
Justice Court	L	–	0/ $2,500	$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	–	0/ $2,500	–	–	–	–
NEW HAMPSHIRE:							
Superior Court	G	$1,500/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
District Court	L	–	0/$10,000	$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	–	0/ $1,500	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
					(only landlord-tenant, and small claims)		
NEW JERSEY:							
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
(Law Division, Special Civil Part)	L	–	0/ $5,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
NEW MEXICO:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
Magistrate Court	L	–	0/ $5,000	–	–	–	–
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	L	–	0/ $5,000	–	–	–	–

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FIGURE C: Dollar Amount Jurisdiction for Original Tort, Contract, Real Property Rights, and Small Claims Filings in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

				Small claims			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
NEW YORK:							
Supreme Court	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
County Court	G	–	0/$25,000	–	–	–	–
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	–	0/$25,000	$2,000	–	Yes	Yes
City Court	L	–	0/ $5,000 $15,000	$2,000	–	Yes	Yes
District Court	L	–	0/$15,000	$2,000	–	Yes	Yes
Court of Claims	L	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	–	0/ $3,000	$1,500	–	Yes	Yes
NORTH CAROLINA:							
Superior Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
District Court	L	–	0/$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
NORTH DAKOTA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
County Court	L	–	0/$10,000	$2,000	No	Yes	Varies
OHIO:							
Court of Common Pleas	G	$500/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
County Court	L	–	0/ $3,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	–	0/$10,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
OKLAHOMA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	–	$3,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
OREGON:							
Circuit Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
District Court	L	–	0/$10,000	$2,500	No	Yes	No
Justice Court	L	–	0/ $2,500	$2,500	No	Yes	No
PENNSYLVANIA:							
Court of Common Pleas	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
District Justice Court	L	–	0/ $4,000	–	–	–	–
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	–	0/ $5,000 (only real property)	$5,000	No	Yes	Yes
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	–	0/No maximum (only real property)	–	–	–	–
PUERTO RICO:							
Superior Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
District Court	L	–	0/$10,000	–	–	–	–
RHODE ISLAND:							
Superior Court	G	$5,000/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
District Court	L	–	$1,000/ $5,000-$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
SOUTH CAROLINA:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	–	–	–	–	–
Magistrate Court	L	–	0/ $2,500 (no max. in landlord-tenant)	$2,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
SOUTH DAKOTA:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	–	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes

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FIGURE C: Dollar Amount Jurisdiction for Original Tort, Contract, Real Property Rights, and Small Claims Filings in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
TENNESSEE:							
Circuit Court, Chancery Court	G	$50/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
General Sessions Court	L	0/No maximum (Forcible entry, detainer, and in actions to recover personal property	0/$15,000 (All civil actions in counties with population under 700,000) 0/$25,000 (All civil actions in counties with population over 700,000)	$10,000	No	Yes	Yes
TEXAS:							
District Court	G	$200/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court	L	--	$200/varies	--	--	--	--
Justice Court	L	--	0 / $2,500	$2,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
UTAH:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Circuit Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
Justice Court	L	--		$1,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
VERMONT:							
Superior Court	G	$200/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	G	--	0/ $5,000	$2,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
VIRGINIA:							
Circuit Court	G	0-$1,000/No maximum 0/No maximum (real property)	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/ $7,000	--	--	--	--
WASHINGTON:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000 No real property)	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
WEST VIRGINIA:							
Circuit Court	G	$300/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	--	0/ $3,000 (No real property)	--	--	--	--
WISCONSIN:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$2,000	Yes	No	Yes
WYOMING:							
District Court	G	$1,000-$7,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/ $7,000	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $3,000	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.
-- = Information not available.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1989 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by the State Trial Courts, 1989

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
ALABAMA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/Indictment		X			X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				(No data reported)	
ALASKA:								
Superior Court	G	Indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
ARIZONA:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint				Varies with prosecutor*		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint				Varies with prosecutor*		
ARKANSAS:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
City Court, Police Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X			
CALIFORNIA:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
COLORADO:								
District Court	G	Complaint	X					X
County Court	L	Complaint/summons	X					X
CONNECTICUT:								
Superior Court	G	Information	X				(Varies among local police departments)	
DELAWARE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
Family Court	L	Complaint/petition	X				X	
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
Court of Common Pleas	L	Complaint	X		X			
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	Complaint	X		X			
Alderman's Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:								
Superior Court	G	Complaint/information/ indictment	X				X	
FLORIDA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				(Prosecutor decides)	
County Court	L	Complaint	X				X	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by the State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
GEORGIA:								
Superior Court	G	Indictment/accusation		X			X	
State Court	L	Accusation/citation		X			X	
Magistrate Court	L	Accusation/citation	X				X	
Probate Court	L	Accusation/citation	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	No data reported						
Civil Court	L	No data reported						
County Recorder's Court	L	No data reported						
Municipal Courts and the City Court of Atlanta	L	No data reported						
HAWAII:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment	X				X	(Most serious charge)
District Court	L	First appearance/information	X		X			
IDAHO:								
District Court	G	Information	X					X
(Magistrates Division)	L	Complaint	X					X
ILLINOIS:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/information/indictment		X			X	
INDIANA:								
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X (may not be consistent)	
County Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be consistent)	
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be consistent)	
City Court and Town Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be consistent)	
IOWA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
KANSAS:								
District Court	G	First appearance	X				X	
KENTUCKY:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint/citation	X				X	
LOUISIANA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies			Varies		
City and Parish Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X	
MAINE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Information/complaint	X		X			

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by the State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
MARYLAND:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Citation/information	X				X	
MASSACHUSETTS:								
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:								
Superior Court Dept.	G	Information/indictment	X					X
Housing Court Dept.	L	Complaint	X					X
District Court Dept.	L	Complaint	X					X
Boston Municipal Ct.	L	Complaint	X					X
MICHIGAN:								
Circuit Court	G	Information	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
MINNESOTA:								
District Court	G	Complaint	X				X	
MISSISSIPPI:								
Circuit Court	G	Indictment	X				X	
Chancery Court	G	Indictment	X				X	
MISSOURI:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X	
(Associate Division)	L	Complaint		X			X	
MONTANA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X	
Justice of Peace Court and Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
City Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
NEBRASKA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X (not consistently observed statewide)	
County Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X	
NEVADA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
Justice Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
NEW HAMPSHIRE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
District Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
NEW JERSEY:								
Superior Court (Law Division)	G	Accusation/indictment	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by the State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
NEW MEXICO:								
District Court	G	Indictment/information	X				X	(May vary with prosecutor)
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
NEW YORK:								
Supreme Court	G	Defendant/Indictment	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
County Court	G	Defendant/Indictment	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	Docket number	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
District Court and City Court	L	Docket number	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	Complaint	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
NORTH CAROLINA:								
Superior Court	G	Transfer (from District Court) Indictment (when case originates in Superior Court	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
District Court	L	Warrant/summons (includes citations, Magistrates order, misdemeanor statement of charges)	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
NORTH DAKOTA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	(may vary)
County Court	L	Complaint/information	X				Varies	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
OHIO:								
Court of Common Pleas	G	Arraignment	X				X	
County Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
Mayor's Court	L	No data reported						
OKLAHOMA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
OREGON:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment		X		(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
District Court	L	Complaint/indictment		X		(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
Justice Court	L	Complaint		X		(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint		X	X			
PENNSYLVANIA:								
Court of Common Pleas	G	Information/docket transcript	X				X	
District Justice Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	Complaint	X				X	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by the State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
PUERTO RICO:								
Superior Court	G	Accusation	X		X			
District Court	L	Charge	X		X			
RHODE ISLAND:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
District Court	L	Complaint	X					X
SOUTH CAROLINA:								
Circuit Court	G	Warrant/summons	X		X			
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant/summons	X		X			
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/summons	X		X			
SOUTH DAKOTA:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint	X				X	
TENNESSEE:								
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	Information/indictment	Not consistent statewide					
General Sessions Court	L	No data reported						
Municipal Court	L	No data reported						
TEXAS:								
District Court and Criminal District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
County-Level Courts	L	Complaint/information	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
UTAH:								
District Court	G	Information		X				X
Circuit Court	L	Information/citation	X				X	
Justice Court	L	Citation	X				X	
VERMONT:								
District Court	G	Arraignment	X					X
VIRGINIA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
District Court	L	Warrant/summons	X		X			
WASHINGTON:								
Superior Court	G	Information		X			X	
District Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)		
WEST VIRGINIA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint			X			X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
WISCONSIN:								
Circuit Court	G	Initial appearance	X					X
Municipal Court	L	Citation**	X		X			

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FIGURE D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by the State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
WYOMING:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
County Court	L	Complaint/information		X				X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint/information		X				X
Municipal Court	L	Citation/complaint	X		X			

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.

FOOTNOTES

*Arizona–Varies in limited jurisdiction courts. Prosecutor can file either long or short form. Long form can involve one or more defendants and/or charges; short form involves one defendant and a single charge.

**Wisconsin–Municipal Court--The court has exclusively civil jurisdiction, but its caseload includes first offense DWI/DUI cases. *The State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* treats all DWI/DUI cases as a subcategory of criminal cases.

Source: State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, updated and verified for 1989 by State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE E: Juvenile Unit of Count Used in State Trial Courts, 1989

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
ALABAMA:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
District Court	L		X	X		18
ALASKA:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
ARIZONA:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
ARKANSAS:						
Circuit Court	G			X	X	18
Chancery and Probate Court	G		X	X		18
CALIFORNIA:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
COLORADO:						
District Court (includes Denver Juvenile Court)	G		X		X	18
CONNECTICUT:						
Superior Court	G	X			X	16
DELAWARE:						
Family Court	L		X		X	18
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:						
Superior Court	G	X			X	18*
FLORIDA:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
GEORGIA:						
Superior Court and Juvenile Court	G		X		X	17*
HAWAII:						
Circuit Court (Family Court Division)	G	X		X		16
IDAHO:						
District Court	G		X	X		18

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile Unit of Count Used in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	
ILLINOIS:						
Circuit Court	G		X		X	17 (15 for first degree murder, aggravated criminal sexual assault, armed robbery, robbery with a firearm, and unlawful use of weapons on school grounds)
INDIANA:						
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
Probate Court	L		X	X		18
IOWA:						
District Court	G		X	Disposition data are not collected		18
KANSAS:						
District Court	G		X		X	18 14 (for traffic violation) 16 (for fish and game or charged with felony with two prior juvenile adjudications, which would be considered a felony)
KENTUCKY:						
District Court	L		X	X		18
LOUISIANA:						
District Court	G		X	X		17
Family Court and Juvenile Court	G		X	X		15 (for first and second degree murder, manslaughter, and aggravated rape)
City Court	L		X	X		16 (for armed robbery, aggravated burglary, and aggravated kidnapping)
MAINE:						
District Court	L		X		X	18
MARYLAND:						
Circuit Court	G		X		X	18
District Court	L		X		X	18

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile Unit of Count Used in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
MASSACHUSETTS:						
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:	G					
District Court Dept.			X	X		17
Juvenile Court Dept.			X	X		17
MICHIGAN:						
Probate Court	L		X		X	17
MINNESOTA:						
District Court	G		X	X		18
MISSISSIPPI:						
County Court	L		X	X		
Family Court	L		X	X		
MISSOURI:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		17
MONTANA:						
District Court	G		X		X	18
NEBRASKA:						
Separate Juvenile Court	L		X		X	18
County Court	L		X		X	18
NEVADA:						
District Court	G		Varies by District		Varies by District	18*
NEW HAMPSHIRE:						
District Court	L		X		X	18 16 (for traffic violation) 15 (for some felony charges)
NEW JERSEY:						
Superior Court	G	X		X		18
NEW MEXICO:						
District Court	G		X	X		18
NEW YORK:						
Family Court	L		X		X	16 13 (for murder and kidnapping)
NORTH CAROLINA:						
District Court	L		X (First filing only)	X		16
NORTH DAKOTA:						
District Court	G		X		X	18

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FIGURE E: Juvenile Unit of Count Used in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Filings are counted		Disposition counted		Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
		At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	
OHIO:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X (warrant)			X	18
OKLAHOMA:						
District Court	G		X (case number)	X		18
OREGON:						
Circuit Court	G		X	Dispositions are not counted		18
County Court	L		X			18
PENNSYLVANIA:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X		X		18
PUERTO RICO:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
RHODE ISLAND:						
Family Court	L		X	X		18
SOUTH CAROLINA:						
Family Court	L		X	X		17
SOUTH DAKOTA:						
Circuit Court	G	X		X		18
TENNESSEE:						
General Sessions Court	L	X			X	18
Juvenile Court	L	X			X	18
TEXAS:						
District Court	G		X		X	17
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, Probate Court	L		X		X	17
UTAH:						
Juvenile Court	L		X		X	18
VERMONT:						
District Court	G		X		X	16
VIRGINIA:						
District Court	L		X		X	18
WASHINGTON:						
Superior Court	G		X (dependency)	X (delinquency)	X	18
WEST VIRGINIA:						
Circuit Court	G		X		X	18
WISCONSIN:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		18

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FIGURE E: Juvenile Unit of Count Used in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
WYOMING:						
District Court	G		X	X		19

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.

FOOTNOTES

*District of Columbia–Depending on the severity of the offense a juvenile between the ages of 16-18 can be charged as an adult.

*Georgia--18 for deprived juveniles.

*Nevada–Unless certified at a younger age because of felony charged.

Source: State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, updated and verified for 1989 by State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE F: State Trial Courts with Incidental Appellate Jurisdiction, 1989

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
ALABAMA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	District, Probate, and Municipal Courts
ALASKA:						
Superior Court	G	X	O	O	de novo	
		O	X	X	on the record	District Court
ARIZONA:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	de novo (if no record)	Justice of the Peace, Municipal Court
ARKANSAS:						
Circuit Court	G	O	X	X	de novo	Court of Common Pleas, County, Municipal, City, and Police Courts and Justice of the Peace
CALIFORNIA:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Justice Court, Municipal Court
COLORADO:						
District Court	G	X	X	O	on the record	County and Municipal Court of Record
		O	O	X	de novo	County and Municipal Court of Record
County Court	L	O	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court Not of Record
CONNECTICUT:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	O	de novo or on the record	Probate Court
DELAWARE:						
Superior Court	G	O	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court of Wilmington, Alderman's, and Justice of Peace Courts
		X	X	X	on the record	Superior Court, Court of Common Pleas
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:						
Superior Court	G	X	O	O	on the record	Office of Employee Appeals, Administrative Traffic Agency
FLORIDA:						
Circuit Court	G	O	X	O	de novo on the record	County Court
		O	O	X	on the record	County Court

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FIGURE F: State Trial Courts with Incidental Appellate Jurisdiction, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals Civil	Trial Court Appeals Criminal	Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
GEORGIA:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	O	de novo or on the record (varies by county)	Probate Court, Magistrate Court
		O	O	X	de novo, on the record, (Probate varies) certiorari (Magistrate only)	Probate Court Municipal Court Magistrate Court County Recorder's Court
State Court	L	O	X	O	certiorari	Magistrate Court
		O	O	X	on the record	County Recorder's Court
HAWAII:						
Circuit Court	G	X	O	O	de novo	
IDAHO:						
District Court	G	X	X (small claims only)	X	de novo	Magistrates Division
		O	X	O	on the record	Magistrates Division
ILLINOIS:						
Circuit Court	G	X	O	O	on the record	
INDIANA:						
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	City and Town Courts
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	O	X	O	de novo	Small Claims Court of Marion County
IOWA:						
District Court	G	X	O	O	de novo	
		O	X	X	on the record	Magistrates Division
KANSAS:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	civil, on the record	Criminal (from Municipal Court) Civil (from limited jurisdiction judge)
KENTUCKY:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	District Court
LOUISIANA:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	City and Parish, Justice of the Peace, Mayor's Courts
MAINE:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	District Court, Administrative Court
MARYLAND:						
Circuit Court	G	X	O	O	de novo, on the record	
		X	X	X	de novo, first instance	District Court

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FIGURE F: State Trial Courts with Incidental Appellate Jurisdiction, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
MASSACHUSETTS:						
Superior Court Department	G	X	X	O	de novo, on the record	Other departments
District Court Department and Boston Municipal Court	G	X	X	X	de novo, first instance	Other departments
MICHIGAN:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court
		O	X	O	on the record	District, Municipal, and Probate Courts
MINNESOTA:						
District Court	G	O	X		de novo	Conciliation Division
MISSISSIPPI:						
Circuit Court Courts	G	X	X	X	on the record	County and Municipal
Chancery Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	Commission
MISSOURI:						
Circuit Court	G	X	O	O	on the record	
		X	X	O	de novo	Municipal Court, Associate Divisions
MONTANA:						
District Court	G	X	X	O	de novo and on the record	Justice of Peace, Municipal, and City Courts, and State Boards
		O	O	X	de novo	
NEBRASKA:						
District Court	G	X	O	O	de novo on the record	
		O	X	X	on the record	County Court
NEVADA:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Justice Court
		O	O	X	de novo	Municipal Court
NEW HAMPSHIRE:						
Superior Court	G	X	O	X	de novo	District, Municipal, Probate Courts
NEW JERSEY:						
Superior Court	G	O	O	X	de novo on the record	Municipal Court
NEW MEXICO:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	Magistrate, Probate, Municipal, and Bernalillo County Metropolitan Courts
NEW YORK:						
County Court	G	O	X	X	on the record	City, Town and Village Justice Courts

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FIGURE F: State Trial Courts with Incidental Appellate Jurisdiction, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
NORTH CAROLINA:						
Superior Court	G	X	O	X	de novo	District Court
		X	O	O	de novo on the record	
		X	O	O	on the record	
NORTH DAKOTA:						
District Court	G	X	O	O	Varies	
County Court	L	O	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court
OHIO:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	O	O	de novo and on the record	
County Court	L	O	O	X	de novo	Mayor's Court
Municipal Court	L	O	O	X	de novo	Mayor's Court
Court of Claims	L	X	O	O	de novo	
OKLAHOMA:						
District Court	G	X	O	X	de novo on the record	Municipal Court Not of Record
Court of Tax Review	L	X	O	O	de novo on the record	
OREGON:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	County Court, Municipal Court (in counties with no District Court) Justice Court (in counties with no District Court)
Tax Court	G	X	O	O	on the record	
PENNSYLVANIA:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	X	O	on the record	limited jurisdiction courts
		O	O	X	de novo	
PUERTO RICO:						
Superior Court	G	O	X	X	--	District Court
RHODE ISLAND:						
Superior Court	G	X	O	O	on the record	
		O	X	X	de novo	District, Municipal, and Probate Courts
District Court	L	X	O	O	on the record	
SOUTH CAROLINA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Magistrate, Probate, and Municipal Courts
SOUTH DAKOTA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	O	O	de novo and on the record	
		O	X	X	de novo	Magistrates Division
TENNESSEE:						
Circuit, Chancery,and Criminal Courts	G	X	X	X	de novo	General Sessions, Probate, Municipal, and Juvenile Courts

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FIGURE F: State Trial Courts with Incidental Appellate Jurisdiction, 1989. (continued)

		Administrative Agency	Trial Court Appeals			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Appeals	Civil	Criminal	Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
TEXAS:						
District Court	G	X	O	O	de novo and de novo on the record	
County-Level Courts	L	O	X	X	de novo	Municipal and Justice of the Peace Courts
UTAH:						
District Court	G	X O	O O	O O		
VERMONT:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	O	de novo on the record	District Court, Probate Court
VIRGINIA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	O	O	on the record	
		O	X	X	de novo	District Court
WASHINGTON:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	District and Municipal Courts
WEST VIRGINIA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	O	O	on the record	
		O	X	X	de novo	Magistrate Court
WISCONSIN:						
Circuit Court	G	O	X	X (first offense DWI/DUI only)	de novo	Municipal Court
		X	X	X (first offense DWI/DUI only)	on the record	Municipal Court
WYOMING:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	limited jurisdiction courts

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.
-- = Information not available.

Definitions of types of appeal:

de novo:	An appeal from one trial court to another trial court that results in a totally new set of proceedings and a new trial court judgment.
de novo on the record:	An appeal from one trial court to another trial court that is based on the record and results in a new trial court judgment.
on the record:	An appeal from one trial court to another trial court in which procedural challenges to the original trial proceedings are claimed, and an evaluation of those challenges are made--there is not a new trial court judgment on the case.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1989 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE G: Number of Judges/Justices in the State Courts, 1989

State:	Court(s) of last resort	Intermediate appellate court(s)		General jurisdiction court(s)		Limited jurisdiction court(s)	
Alabama	9	8		124		801	(includes 416 mayors)
Alaska	5	3		30		75	(includes 58 magistrates)
Arizona	5	18		109		252	(includes 84 justices of the peace, 55 part-time judges)
Arkansas	7	6		95		332	
California	7	88		909	(includes 120 commissioners or referees)	807	(includes 137 commissioners or referees)
Colorado	7	16		117	(includes 1 referee, 2 commissioners)	362	(includes 52 part-time judges)
Connecticut	7	9		166	(includes the 16 appellate justices/judges)	132	
Delaware	5	--		20	(includes 1 chancellor and 4 vice-chancellors)	93	(includes 53 justices of the peace, 1 chief magistrate, 18 aldermen, 1 part-time judge)
District of Columbia	9	--		51		--	
Florida	7	53		382		229	
Georgia	7	9		143		1139	(includes 84 part-time judges 159 chief magistrates, 284 magistrates, an unknown number of magistrates are part-time)
Hawaii	5	3		34	(includes 10 Family Court judges)	59	(includes 37 per diem judges)
Idaho	5	3		104	(includes 63 lawyer and 8 non-lawyer magistrates)	--	
Illinois	7	50	(includes 12 supplemental judges)	810		--	
Indiana	5	13		228		132	
Iowa	9	6		313	(includes 149 part-time magistrates)	--	

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FIGURE G: Number of Judges/Justices in the State Courts, 1989. (continued)

State:	Court(s) of last resort	Intermediate appellate court(s)	General jurisdiction court(s)		Limited jurisdiction court(s)	
Kansas	7	10	217	(includes 70 district magistrate judges)	265	
Kentucky	7	14	91		125	
Louisiana	7	52	194		706	(includes 384 justices of the peace, 250 mayors)
Maine	7	--	16		42	(includes 16 part-time judges)
Maryland	7	13	114		159	
Massachusetts	7	14	320		--	
Michigan	7	24	201		366	
Minnesota	7	13	230 *		-- *	
Mississippi	9	--	79		482	(includes 165 mayors, 191 justices of the peace)
Missouri	7	32	303		362	
Montana	7	--	41		120	(includes 43 justices of the peace that also serve on the city court)
Nebraska	7	--	48		69	
Nevada	5	--	37		88	
New Hampshire	5	--	25		96	(includes 4 part-time judges)
New Jersey	7	28	359		374	(includes 345 part-time judges)
New Mexico	5	7	59		183	(includes 2 part-time judges)
New York	7	62	568		2924	(includes 76 surrogates, 2,242 justices of the peace)
North Carolina	7	12	181	(includes 104 clerks who hear uncontested probate)	806	(includes 644 magistrates of which approximately 70 are part-time)
North Dakota	5	3 *	27		168	
Ohio	7	59	344		811	(includes 550 mayors)
Oklahoma	14	12	210		379	(includes unknown number of part-time judges)
Oregon	7	10	88		227	(includes 34 justices of the peace)
Pennsylvania	7	24	342		572	(includes 539 justices of the peace and 5 magistrates)
Puerto Rico	7	--	118		166	(includes 10 special judges)
Rhode Island	5	--	20		79	

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FIGURE G: Number of Judges/Justices in the State Courts, 1989. (continued)

State:	Court(s) of last resort	Intermediate appellate court(s)	General jurisdiction court(s)		Limited jurisdiction court(s)	
South Carolina	5	6	52	(includes 21 masters-in-equity)	667	(includes 325 magistrates)
South Dakota	5	--	196	(includes 9 part-time lay magistrates, 18 law magistrates, 87 full-time magistrate/clerks, 46 part-time lay magistrate/clerks)	--	
Tennessee	5	21	132	(includes 33 chancellors)	360	(includes 11 part-time judges)
Texas	18	80	384		2554	(includes 928 justices of the peace)
Utah	5	7	29		189	(includes 140 justices of the peace)
Vermont	5	--	25		19	(part-time)
Virginia	7	10	131		190	(includes 77 FTE Juvenile and Domestic Relations judges)
Washington	9	16	148		199	(109 part-time judges)
West Virginia	5	--	60		278	(includes 156 magistrates and 122 part-time judges)
Wisconsin	7	13	209		193	(190 part-time)
Wyoming	5	--	17		107	(includes 14 part-time justices the peace and 75 part-time judges)
Total	356	827	9250		18738	

-- = The state does not have a court at the indicated level.

NOTE: This table identifies, in parentheses, all individuals who hear cases but are not titled judges/justices. Some states may have given the title "judge" to officials who are called magistrates, justices of the peace, etc., in other states.

FOOTNOTES

*Minnesota--General Jurisdiction and Limited Jurisdiction Courts were consolidated in 1987.

*North Dakota--Court of Appeals effective July 1, 1987 through January 1, 1990. A temporary Court of Appeals was established to exercise appellate and original jurisdiction as delegated by the Supreme Court.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1989 State Trial and Appellate Court statistical profiles.

FIGURE H: Method of Counting Civil Cases in State Trial Courts, 1989

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/ collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
ALABAMA:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing		No	No
District Court	L	New filing		No	No
ALASKA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		No	No
District Court	L	Reopened		No	No
ARIZONA:					
Superior Court	G	NC		No	Yes/No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	NC		No	Yes/No
ARKANSAS:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Chancery and Probate Court	G	Reopened		No	No
CALIFORNIA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened	Retried cases	No	No
Municipal Court	L	Reopened	Retried cases	No	NA
Justice Court	L	Reopened	Retried cases	No	NA
COLORADO:					
District Court	G	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
Water Court	G	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
County Court	L	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
Municipal Court	L	NA		NA	NA
CONNECTICUT:					
Superior Court	G	New filing if heard separately (rarely occurs)		No	No
DELAWARE:					
Court of Chancery	G	Reopened		No	No
Superior Court	G	New filing Reopened	If remanded Case rehearing	No	Yes/No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Rarely occurs		No	Yes/No
Family Court	L	New filing is heard separately Reopened - if rehearing of total case	If part of original proceeding	No	No
Court of Common Pleas	L	New filing Reopened	If remanded Rehearing	No	No
Alderman's Court	L	New filing Reopened	If remanded Rehearing	No	No
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes
FLORIDA:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
County Court	L	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No

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FIGURE H: Method of Counting Civil Cases in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/ collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
GEORGIA:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		Yes	No
Civil Court	L	NC		NA	NC
State Court	L	New filing		Yes	No
Probate Court	L	New filing		NA	NC
Magistrate Court	L	New filing		Yes	[illegible]
Municipal Court	L	NC		NA	NC
HAWAII:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	Supplemental proceedings	Yes/Yes Special proceedings	Yes/Yes Circuit Court: Special Proceedings
Family Court	G	New filing	Redocketed		Yes/No
District Court	L	Reopened	Supplemental proceedings	No	Yes/No (included as new case filing)
IDAHO:					
District Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	No
ILLINOIS:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
INDIANA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
County Court	L	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
City Court	L	NA	NA	NA	N/A
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	NA	NA	NA	NA
IOWA:					
District Court	G	New filing		Yes/No	No
KANSAS:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes/No
KENTUCKY:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
District Court	L	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
LOUISIANA:					
District Court	G	Reopened	As action on open case	Yes/Yes	Yes/No
Juvenile Court	G	Reopened	As action on open case	Yes/Yes	No
Family Court	G	Reopened	As action on open case	No	No
City & Parish Courts	L	New filing	As action on open case	Yes/No	No
MAINE:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		No	Yes/No
District Court	L	NC		No	No
Probate Court	L	NC		No	No

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FIGURE H: Method of Counting Civil Cases in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/ collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
MARYLAND:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing		No	NA
District Court	L	NA		NA	Yes/No
MASSACHUSETTS:					
Trial Court of the Commonwealth					
Superior Court Dept.	G	NC		NA	Yes/No
District Court Dept.	G	NC		Yes/Yes	NA
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	G	NC		Yes/Yes	NA
Housing Court Dept.	G	NC		Yes/Yes	NA
Land Court Dept.	G	NC		N/Applicable	NA
MICHIGAN:					
Court of Claims	G	Reopened		No	No
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
District Court	L	NA		NA	NA
Municipal Court	L	NA		NA	NA
MINNESOTA:					
District Court	G	Identified separately		No	No
MISSISSIPPI:					
Circuit Court	G	NA		NA	NA
Court of Chancery	G	NA		NA	NA
MISSOURI:					
Circuit Court	G	New filings		Yes/No	Yes/No
MONTANA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	Yes/No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	NA		NA	NA
Municipal Court	L	NA		NA	NA
City Court	L	NA		NA	NA
NEBRASKA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
County Court	L	Reopened		No	No
NEVADA:					
District Court	G	Reopened	May not be reopened but refers back to original case	Varies/Varies	Varies
NEW HAMPSHIRE:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		No	No
District Court	L	NC		No	No
Municipal Court	L	NC		No	No
NEW JERSEY:					
Superior Court: Civil, Family, General Equity, and Criminal Divisions	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	Yes/No (except for domestic violence)

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FIGURE H: Method of Counting Civil Cases in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/ collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
NEW MEXICO:					
District Court	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	No
Magistrate Court	L	Reopened		No	No
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	L	Reopened		No	No
NEW YORK:					
Supreme Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
County Court	L	NC		No	No
Court of Claims	L	NC		No	No
Family Court	L	Reopened		Yes/No	No
District Court	L	NC		No	No
City Court	L	NC		No	No
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	NC		No	No
Town & Village Justice Court	L	NC		No	No
NORTH CAROLINA:					
Superior Court	G	NC		No	No
District Court	L	NC		Yes/No	No
NORTH DAKOTA:					
District Court	G	New filing		Yes/Yes (only counted if a hearing was held)	Yes/Yes
County Court	L	New filing		No	No
OHIO:					
Court of Common Pleas	G	Reopened		Yes/No (are counted separately in domestic relations cases)	Yes/No
Municipal Court	L	Reopened		Yes	Yes
County Court	L	Reopened		Yes	Yes
Court of Claims	L	NA		NA	NA
OKLAHOMA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
OREGON:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
Justice Court	L	NA		NA	NA
Municipal Court	L	NA		NA	NA
District Court	L	Reopened		NA	NA
PENNSYLVANIA:					
Court of Common Pleas	G	Reopened		No	No
District Justice Court	L	New filing		NA	NA
PUERTO RICO:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		Yes/No	NA
District Court	L	New filing		Yes/No	NA
RHODE ISLAND:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes/No
District Court	L	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
Family Court	L	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
Probate Court	L	NA		NA	NA

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FIGURE H: Method of Counting Civil Cases in State Trial Courts, 1989. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/ collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
SOUTH CAROLINA:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing		No	No (Permanent injunctions are counted as a new filing)
Family Court	L	New filing		No	No
Magistrate Court	L	New filing		No	No
Probate Court	L	New filing		No	No
SOUTH DAKOTA:					
Circuit Court	G	NC		No	Yes/No
TENNESSEE:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	(Varies based on local practice)		(Varies based on local practice)
Chancery Court	G	Reopened	(Varies based on local practice)		(Varies based on local practice)
General Sessions Court	L	Reopened	(Varies based on local practice)		(Varies based on local practice)
TEXAS:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Constitutional County Court	L	Reopened		No	No
County Court at Law	L	Reopened		No	No
Justice Court	L	New filing		No	No
UTAH:					
District Court	G	NC	(called - abstract of judgment filed)	No	Yes/Yes
Circuit Court	L	NC		No	Yes/Yes
Justice Court	L	NC		No	Yes/Yes
VERMONT:					
Superior Court	G	NC		No	Yes/No
District Court	G	NC		No	Yes/No
Probate Court	L	NC		No	N/A
VIRGINIA:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	Reinstated cases	Yes/Yes	Yes/No
District Court	L	New filing		Yes/No	No
WASHINGTON:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes/No
Municipal Court	L	New filing		NA	NA
District Court	L	New filing		Yes/No	NA
WEST VIRGINIA:					
Circuit Court	G	NC		No	Yes/No
Magistrate Court	L	NC		No	N/Applicable
WISCONSIN:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing	Identified with R suffix, but included in total count	No	Yes/Yes
WYOMING:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Reopened		NA	NA
County Court	L	Reopened		NA	NA

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JURISDICTION CODES:

G	- General Jurisdiction Court
L	- Limited Jurisdiction Court
NA	- Information is not available
NC	- Information is not collected/counted
N/Applicable	- Civil casetypes heard by this court are not applicable to this figure.

Source: The 1989 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, as updated and verified by State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

APPENDIX A

METHODOLOGY

Court Statistics Project: Goals and Organization

The Court Statistics Project of the National Center for State Courts compiles and reports comparable court caseload data from the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In the process, project publications and technical assistance encourages greater uniformity in how individual state courts and state administrative court offices collect and publish caseload information. Progress toward these goals should result in more meaningful and useful caseload information at the disposal of judges, court managers, and court administrators.

The *State Court Caseload Statistics* annual report series is a cooperative effort of the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). Responsibility for project management and staffing is assumed by the NCSC's Court Statistics Project, formerly called the National Courts Statistics Project (1977-83) and the Court Statistics and Information Management Project (1983-87). COSCA, through its Court Statistics Committee, provides policy guidance and review. The Court Statistics Committee includes members of COSCA and representatives of state court administrative office senior staff, the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks, the National Association for Court Management, and the academic community. Preparation of the 1989 caseload report was funded by an on-going grant from the State Justice Institute (SJI-90-07X-B-018) to the NCSC.

In addition to preparing publications, the Court Statistics Project responds to about 500 requests for information and assistance each year. These requests come from a variety of sources, including state court administrative offices, local courts, individual judges, federal and state agencies, legislators, the media, academic researchers, students, and NCSC staff. Requests can be grouped into four main categories: caseload data; court jurisdictional information; information on data collection and reporting techniques; and statistical analyses of caseload data. The subject matter of these requests are taken into consideration when selecting topics for emphasis in the caseload statistics report series.

Evolution of the Court Statistics Project

During compilation of the Court Statistics Project's original data compilation efforts, the *State of the Art* and *State Court Caseload Statistics: 1975 Annual Report,* classification problems arose from the multitude of categories and terms used by the states to report their caseloads. This suggested the need for a model annual report and a statistical dictionary of terms for court usage.

The *State Court Model Annual Report* outlines the basic management data that should, at minimum, be included in state court annual reports. The *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* provides common terminology, definitions, and usage for reporting appellate and trial court caseload inventory. Terms for use in reporting data on the method of case disposition are also provided in the dictionary and in other project publications. The classification scheme and associated definitions serve as a model framework for the purpose of developing comparable and useful data. A new edition of the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* was published in 1989, consolidating and revising the original 1980 version and the *1984 Supplement.*

The *Court Case Management Information Systems Manual,* which was produced jointly with the State Judicial Information Systems Project, is another vehicle through which the Court Statistics Project seeks to improve the quality and usefulness of court statistics. The manual outlines the steps that build a court information system that provides the data needed both for daily court operations and for long-term case management, resource allocation, and strategic planning.

Once a set of recommended terms was adopted, the project's focus shifted to assessing the comparability of caseload data reported by the courts to those terms. It became particularly important to detail the subject matter jurisdiction and methods of counting cases in each state court. This effort was undertaken in two stages. The first stage addressed problems related to the categorizing and counting of cases in the trial courts and resulted in the *1984 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting.* Information from the jurisdiction guide was incorporated into the caseload database for 1981 and is updated annually.

The second stage involved preparation of the *1984 Statistical Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting,* which was used to compile the 1984 appellate court database. Key information from the guide is updated annually as part of the preparation for a new caseload Report. The introduction to the 1981 Report details the impact of the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide on the Court Statistics Project data collection and the introduction to the 1984 Report describes the impact of the Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide.

Much of the court jurisdictional information contained in the 1987 and subsequent Reports is the result of research for *State Court Organization 1987,* another Project publication. *State Court Organization 1987* is a reference book that describes the organization and management of the state appellate courts.

The first caseload Report contained 1975 caseload data for state appellate courts, trial courts of general jurisdiction, and for selected categories (juvenile, domestic relations, probate, and mental health) in limited jurisdiction courts. The second Report in the series (1976) again presented available data for appellate courts and courts of general jurisdiction but also included all available caseload data for limited jurisdiction courts. The 1979 and 1980 Reports eliminated repetitiveness in the summary tables and reorganized the data presentation based on completeness and comparability. The 1981 Report, incorporating the reporting structure in the *1984 Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide,* organized the caseload data by comparable jurisdictions. In order to make the series current with the publication of the 1984 *Report,* the Court Statistics Project did not publish caseload data for 1982 and 1983.

Sources of Data

Information for the national caseload databases comes from published and unpublished sources supplied by state court administrators and appellate court clerks. Published data are typically official state court annual reports, which assume a variety of forms and vary widely in detail. Although constituting the most reliable and valid data available at the state level, they arrive from statistical data filed monthly, quarterly, or annually by numerous local jurisdictions and, in most states, several trial and appellate court systems. Moreover, these caseload statistics are primarily collected to assist states in managing their own systems and are not prepared specifically for inclusion in the COSCA/NCSC caseload statistics report series.

Some states either do not publish an annual report or publish only limited caseload statistics for either trial or appellate courts. The Court Statistics Project receives unpublished data from those states in a wide range of forms, including internal management memos, computer generated output, and the Project's statistical and jurisdictional profiles, which were sent to state court administrative offices for updating.

Extensive telephone contact and follow-up correspondence are used to collect missing data, confirm the accuracy of available data, and determine the legal jurisdiction of each court. Information is also collected concerning the number of judges per court or court system (from annual reports, offices of state court administrators, and appellate court clerks); the state population (based on Bureau of the Census revised estimates), and special characteristics regarding subject matter jurisdiction and court structure. Appendix B lists the source of each state's 1989 caseload statistics.

Data Collection Procedures

The following outline summarizes the major tasks involved in compiling the 1989 caseload data reported in this volume:

A. The 1989 state reports were evaluated to note changes in the categories and terminology used for data reporting, changes in the range of available data, and changes in the state's court organization or jurisdiction. This entailed a direct comparison of the 1989 material with the contents of individual state's 1988 annual reports. Project staff used a copy of each state's 1988 trial and appellate court statistical profiles, trial and appellate court jurisdiction guides and the state court organization chart as worksheets for gathering the 1989 data. Use of the previous years' profiles provides the data collector with a reference point to identify and replicate the logic used in the data collection and ensure consistency over time in the report series. The caseload data were entered onto the 1989 profiles. The caseload terminology used in the profiles are defined by the statistical dictionary. Prototypes of appellate and trial court statistical profiles can be found in Appendix C.

B. Caseload numbers were screened for significant changes from the previous year. A formal record that documents and, where possible, explains such changes is maintained. This process serves as another reliability check by identifying statutory, organizational, or procedural changes that potentially had an impact on the size of the reported court caseload.

C. The data were then transferred from the handwritten copy to computer databases (codebooks are available upon request) that are created as EXCEL spreadsheets. Mathematical formulas are embedded in each spreadsheet to compute the caseload totals. The reliability of the data collection and data entry process was verified through an independent review by another project staff member of all decisions made by the original data collector. Linked spreadsheets contained the information on the number of judges, court jurisdiction, and state population needed to generate caseload tables for the 1989 Report.

D. After the data were entered and checked for data entry errors and internal consistency, individual spreadsheets were generated for the appellate and trial courts using EXCEL software. These spreadsheets replaced the statistical profiles that were previously generated manually as the main record of caseloads by category. The spreadsheet relates the total for each model reporting category to the category or categories the state used to report its caseload numbers.

E. Twenty-two of the trial court spreadsheets were sent for verification directly to the states' respective administrative offices of the courts. This new step in the data collection process provided further assurance of data accuracy and also yielded a bonus when nine of the states added caseload data that in previous years had not been provided. The 1990 data collection effort will expand this step to include all trial and appellate court spreadsheets.

F. Appellate spreadsheets were only submitted to one state during the 1989 data collection process. However, project staff jointly reviewed the correctness of previous practices used in compiling appellate data for each state. As a result, caseload data for the Illinois Supreme Court, the Missouri Supreme Court, and the New Mexico Supreme Court are reported differently in this Report.

As a result of the review, it was decided that "Miscellaneous Record" cases of the Illinois Supreme Court would not be treated as part of the court's caseload for 1989. The majority of these cases consist of name change petitions, bar admission petitions, petitions to amend and/or adopt Supreme Court Rules and petitions to allow cameras in the courtroom. These cases differ from the "miscellaneous docket cases," which are included in the caseload report. Miscellaneous docket cases consist of writs of habeas corpus, writs of mandamus, and prisoner pro se cases, cases that are fully briefed, argued, and may result in a written opinion. In previous years, miscellaneous record and miscellaneous docket cases were combined and included in the caseload report as original proceedings. This year's Report only counts miscellaneous docket cases.

The spreadsheet for the Missouri Supreme Court, was reviewed by the Office of State Courts, resulting in a reclassification of some case types between the mandatory and discretionary categories. Also, for the 1989 Report, the Office of State Courts Administrator provided a more complete accounting of the number of mandatory jurisdiction cases that were filed and disposed. Case types added include civil cases challenging the validity of a U.S. treaty or statute; the validity of a statute or constitutional provision; the construction of state revenue laws; or title to state office. A small number of unclassified cases were identified, which includes cases transferred from the court of appeals. A more detailed breakdown of the discretionary petitions filed, granted and disposed was also obtained. In this and future Reports, only petitions of final judgement that arise as applications for transfer to the Missouri Supreme Court will be counted. This reclassification and clarification leads to a more comprehensive and accurate count of cases filed and disposed in the Missouri Supreme Court. For the New Mexico Supreme Court, petitions for extension of time in criminal cases pursuant to Rule 5-604 will no longer be counted as cases. Previous Reports combined these petitions with writs of mandamus, prohibition, habeas corpus, Rule 12-603 election challenges, miscellaneous proceedings, superintending control and quo warranto cases and classified them as original proceedings. By no longer treating these petitions as cases the total 1989 mandatory caseload in the New Mexico Supreme Court is significantly lower than that reported in previous years.

For purposes of the trend analysis in Part II, 1984-88 data from the Illinois Supreme Court and the New Mexico Supreme Court were recalculated to follow the method used to derive 1989 caseloads.

Significant changes were made in the completeness of trial court caseload data for the following courts:

(1) Alabama Municipal Court—Criminal and traffic/other violation data were provided for the first time.

(2) Arizona Tax Court—Created in 1989.

(3) Connecticut Superior Court—DWI/DUI and ordinance violation caseload dispositions were provided for the first time, thus making total criminal and total traffic other violation disposed data complete.

(4) Delaware Justice of the Peace Court—DWI/DUI data previously collapsed with traffic/other violation data could be separated, thus making total criminal and total traffic/other violation data complete.

(5) Idaho District Court—Ordinance violation and parking data were clarified, thus making total traffic/other violation complete.

(6) Kentucky Circuit Court—Postconviction remedy proceedings previously collapsed with civil data could be separated, thus making total civil data complete.

(7) Louisiana Family and Juvenile Court—Civil data previously collapsed with juvenile caseload could be separated, thus making total civil data available for the first time, and total juvenile data complete.

(8) Maryland District Court—DWI/DUI case disposition data previously collapsed with traffic/other violation data could be separated, thus making total criminal and total traffic/other violation data complete.

(9) Missouri Circuit Court—Two domestic relations case types previously collapsed with juvenile case disposition data could be separated, thus making total juvenile case disposition data complete.

(10) New Hampshire Superior Court—Criminal appeals data were provided for the first time, thus making total criminal data complete.

(11) South Carolina Circuit Court—Criminal appeals data were clarified, thus making total criminal data complete.

(12) West Virginia Circuit Court—Postconviction remedy proceedings data previously collapsed with

criminal caseload could be separated for 1989, thus making total criminal data complete.

(13) Wyoming Municipal Court—Data were provided for 1989.

G. Finally, the caseload tables in Part III and the smaller tables supporting the text of Part I were generated. The spreadsheet for each court system is directly linked to the tables, each itself created as an EXCEL spreadsheet and once all of the 1989 data had been entered and verified these links were automatically updated. This updating procedure allows all of the 1989 data to be placed on one large spreadsheet that is then used to generate the tables for Part III of the report. Trend databases are maintained separately using SPSS PC and contain selected categories of appellate and trial court caseloads.

Variables

Four basic types of data elements are collected by the Court Statistics Project: (1) trial court caseload statistics, (2) trial court jurisdictional/organizational information, (3) appellate court caseload, and (4) appellate court jurisdictional/organizational information.

For trial courts, emphasis is placed on reporting the total number of civil, criminal, juvenile, and traffic/other violation cases according to the model reporting format. Each of these major case types can be reduced to more specific caseload categories. For example, civil cases consist of tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, mental health, estate and domestic relations cases, trial court civil appeals and appeals of administrative agency cases. In some instances, these case types can be further refined; for example, domestic relations cases can be divided into marriage dissolution, URESA, support/custody, adoption and paternity cases.

Currently, only filing and disposition numbers are entered into the database for each case type. Data on pending cases were routinely collected by the project staff until serious comparability problems were identified when compiling the 1984 Report. Some courts provide data that include active cases only; others include active and inactive cases. The COSCA Court Statistics Committee recommended that the collection of pending caseload be deferred until a study determines whether and how data can be made comparable across states.

The trial court jurisdictional profile collects an assortment of information relevant to the organization and jurisdiction of each trial court system. The main purpose of the profile is to translate the terminology used by the states when reporting statistical information into generic terms recommended by the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*. In addition, the profile collects information on the number of courts, the number of judges, methods of counting cases, the availability of jury trials, the dollar amount jurisdiction of the court, and the method of case disposition.

There are also statistical and jurisdiction guide profiles for each state appellate court. Two major case types are used on the statistical profile: mandatory cases that the court must hear on the merits as appeals of right and discretionary petition cases that the court decides on whether to accept and then reach a decision on the merits. The statistical profile also contains the number of petitions granted where it can be determined. Mandatory and discretionary petitions are further differentiated by whether the case is a review of a final trial court judgement or some other matter, such as a request for interlocutory or postconviction relief. Where possible, the statistics are classified according to subject matter, chiefly civil, criminal, juvenile, disciplinary, or administrative agency.

As with the trial court jurisdiction guide, the primary task of the appellate guide is to translate the terminology and categories used by each state appellate court into the generic categories recommended by the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary, 1989 Edition*. The guide also contains information about each court, including number of court locations, the number of justices/judges, the number of legal support personnel, the point at which appeals are counted as a case, the procedures used to review discretionary petitions, and the use of panels.

Graphics as a Method of Displaying Caseload Data

The 1985 and 1986 caseload reports used maps to summarize the data contained in the main caseload tables. Subsequent *Reports* also use maps as a method for displaying information, but limit their role to summarizing court structure and jurisdiction, and describing caseload comparability.

Instead of maps, the 1989 Report makes extensive use of pie charts and bar graphs to summarize caseload data. States are usually arrayed by filing rate, from lowest to highest, so that the midpoint and the distribution of rates can be easily determined. Each graph is limited to those states that provide the relevant data to the project in a manner that conforms closely to the COSCA model reporting categories. While efforts are made to note in the graph why states are not included, it is incorrect to conclude that a state omitted from the graph did not report data to the Project. The only definitive statement of data availability can be found in the detailed caseload tables of Part III.

Footnotes

Footnotes indicate the degree to which a court's statistics conform to the Court Statistics Project's reporting categories defined in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*. Footnoted caseload numbers are either overinclusive in that they contain case types other than those defined for the term in the dictionary, or are underinclusive in that some case types defined for the term in the dictionary are not included. It is possible for a caseload number to contain inapplicable types while also omitting those which are applicable, making the total or subtotal simultaneously overinclusive and underinclusive. The 1989 report utilizes a simplified system of footnotes. An "A" footnote indicates that the caseload number for a statewide court system does not include some of the recommended case types; a "B" footnote indicates that the number includes some extraneous case types; a "C" footnote indicates that the number is both incomplete and overinclusive. The text of the footnote explains for each court system how the caseload numbers differ from the reporting category recommended in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary, 1989 Edition*. Case numbers that are not qualified by a footnote conform to the *Dictionary's* definition.

Reporting case filings and dispositions are also affected by the unit and method of count used by the states, differing subject matter and dollar amount jurisdiction, and different court system structures. Most of these differences are described in the figures found in Part V of this volume and summarized in the court structure chart for each state in Part IV. The most important differences are reported in summary form in the main caseload tables.

Variations in Reporting Periods

As indicated in Figure A (Part V), most states report data by fiscal year, others by calendar year, and a few appellate courts report data by court term. Therefore, the twelve month period covered in this report is not the same for all courts.

This report reflects court organization and jurisdiction in 1989. Since 1975, new courts have been created at both the appellate and trial level, new courts report data to the Court Statistics Project, courts may have merged, and changed counting or reporting methods. The dollar amount limits of civil jurisdiction in many trial courts also vary. Care is therefore required when comparing 1989 data to previous years. The trend analysis in Part II of this report offers a model for undertaking such comparisons.

Final Note

Comments, corrections, and suggestions are a vital part of the work of the Court Statistics Project. Users of the *Report* are encouraged to write to the Director, Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, Virginia, 23187-8798.

APPENDIX B

SOURCES OF 1989 STATE COURT CASELOAD STATISTICS

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ALABAMA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: *Alabama Judicial System Annual Report 1989.*

ALASKA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *Alaska Court System, 1989 Annual Report* (Anchorage, Alaska: 1990).

ARIZONA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Arizona Courts, FY 89 Judicial Report* (Phoenix, Arizona: 1990). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

ARKANSAS:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Secretary of the Judicial Department, *Annual Report of the Judiciary of Arkansas, FY 88-89* (Little Rock, Arkansas: 1990).

CALIFORNIA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Judicial Council of California, *1990 Annual Report, Judicial Council of California* (San Francisco, California: 1990).

COLORADO:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: *Colorado Judicial Department, Annual Report* July 1, 1988-June 30, 1989—*Statistical Supplement.* Additional unpublished data were provided by the Office of the State Court Administrator.

CONNECTICUT:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator.

COLR = Court of last resort.
GJC = General jurisdiction court.
IAC = Intermediate appellate court.
LJC = Limited jurisdiction court.

DELAWARE:

COLR, GJC, LJC: Administrative Office of the Courts, *1989 Annual Report of the Delaware Judiciary* (Wilmington, Delaware: 1990).

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:

COLR, GJC: Executive Office of the Courts, *1989 Annual Report, District of Columbia Courts* (Washington, D.C.: 1989). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Executive Officer.

FLORIDA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the State Courts Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator and Department of Highways, Safety and Motor Vehicles.

GEORGIA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: *Administrative Office of the Courts, Sixteenth Annual Report on the Work of the Georgia Courts (July 1, 1988-June 30, 1989).*

HAWAII:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Judiciary, State of Hawaii: Annual Report 1988-89* (Honolulu, Hawaii: 1989) and *Statistical Supplement July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1989.*

IDAHO:

COLR, IAC, GJC: *The Idaho Courts Annual Report for 1989; The Idaho Courts 1989 Annual Report Appendix* (Boise, Idaho: 1990).

ILLINOIS:

COLR, IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

INDIANA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Director of the Division of State Court Administration, *1989 Indiana Judicial Report* (Indianapolis, Indiana: 1990).

IOWA:

COLR: State Court Administrator, *1989 Annual Statistical Report* (Des Moines, Iowa: 1990). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: State Court Administrator, *1989 Annual Statistical Report* (Des Moines, Iowa: 1990). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *1989 Annual Statistical Report* (Des Moines, Iowa: 1990).

KANSAS:

COLR, IAC, GJC: Judicial Administrator, *Annual Report of the Courts of Kansas: 1988-1989 Fiscal Year* (Topeka, Kansas: 1989).

LJC: *Municipal Court Caseload Report FY 1989 July 1, 1988 - June 30, 1989.*

KENTUCKY:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

LOUISIANA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Judicial Administrator, *1989 Annual Report of the Judicial Council of the Supreme Court of Louisiana* (New Orleans, Louisiana: 1990).

MAINE:

COLR, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *State of Maine Judicial Department Annual Report Fiscal Year 1989.* (Portland, Maine, 1990).

MARYLAND:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the Maryland Judiciary 1988-89* (Annapolis, Maryland: 1989). Additional unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

MASSACHUSETTS:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Appeals Court.

GJC, LJC: Chief Administrative Justice, *The Annual Report of the Massachusetts Trial Court, 1989* (Boston, Massachusetts: 1990).

MICHIGAN:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *1989 Annual Report of the State Court Administrator* and *Statistical Supplement* (Lansing, Michigan: 1990).

MINNESOTA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

MISSISSIPPI:

COLR: Staff Attorney, *Mississippi Supreme Court Annual Report 1989* (Jackson, Mississippi: 1990).

GJC, LJC: No data were available for cases handled by these courts in 1989.

MISSOURI:

COLR, IAC, GJC: *Supplement to the Missouri Judicial Report Fiscal Year 1989.* Additional unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

MONTANA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Court Administrator of the Supreme Court.

GJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

LJC: No data were available for cases handled by these courts in fiscal year 1989.

NEBRASKA:

COLR, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Nebraska Supreme Court 1989 Annual Report* (Lincoln, Nebraska: 1989).

NEVADA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of Courts.

NEW HAMPSHIRE:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Director, Administrative Office of the Courts.

NEW JERSEY:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *1988-1989 Annual Report* (Trenton, New Jersey: 1989). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Clerk of the Court and the Administrative Director of the Courts.

NEW MEXICO:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director, *The New Mexico Courts, 1989 Annual Report, State of New Mexico Judicial Branch* (Santa Fe, New Mexico: 1990).

NEW YORK:

COLR, IAC: Clerk of the Court, 1989 *Annual Report of the Clerk of the Court, Court of Appeals of the State of New York* (New York: 1989). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerks of the Appellate Division and Appellate Terms of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Chief Administrator of the Courts.

NORTH CAROLINA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director, Administrative Office of the Courts.

NORTH DAKOTA:

COLR, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the North Dakota Judicial System, 1989* (Bismarck, North Dakota: 1990). Additional unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

OHIO:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Supreme Court, *Ohio Courts Summary 1989* (Columbus, Ohio: 1990).

OKLAHOMA:

COLR: Administrative Director of the Courts, *State of Oklahoma, the Judiciary: Annual Report 1989* (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: 1990). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *State of Oklahoma, the Judiciary: Annual Report 1989* and *Statistical Appendix* (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: 1990).

OREGON:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

PENNSYLVANIA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Court Administrator.

PUERTO RICO:

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

RHODE ISLAND:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

SOUTH CAROLINA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Director of the Judicial Department, *South Carolina Judicial Department, Annual Report, 1989* (Columbia, South Carolina: 1990).

SOUTH DAKOTA:

COLR, GJC: State Court Administrator, *Benchmark 1989: Annual Report of the South Dakota Unified Judicial System* (Pierre, South Dakota: 1990).

TENNESSEE:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court.

TEXAS:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Court, *Texas Judicial System Annual Report, September 1, 1988-August 31, 1989* (Austin, Texas: 1989).

UTAH:

COLR, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court and the State Court Administrator.

VERMONT:

COLR, GJC, LJC: Court Administrator, *Judicial Statistics for Year Ending June 30,* 1989 (Montpelier, Vermont: 1989).

VIRGINIA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Secretary, Supreme Court, *Virginia State of the Judiciary Report 1989* (Richmond, Virginia: 1990).

WASHINGTON:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report, The Courts of Washington, 1989* (Olympia, Washington: 1990).

LJC: *Caseloads of the Courts of Limited Jurisdiction of Washington State, 1989* (Olympia, Washington: 1990).

WEST VIRGINIA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

WISCONSIN:

COLR, IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Director of State Courts.

WYOMING:

COLR, GJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Court Coordinator.

LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Director of State Courts.

COLR = Court of last resort.
GJC = General jurisdiction court.
IAC = Intermediate appellate court.
LJC = Limited jurisdiction court.

APPENDIX C

Prototype of State Appellate Court Statistical Profile

State Name, Court Name
Court of last resort or intermediate appellate court
Number of divisions/departments, number of authorized justices/judges
Total population

	Filed	Disposed
MANDATORY JURISDICTION:		
Appeals of final judgments:		
Civil		
Criminal:		
Capital criminal		
Other criminal		
Total criminal		
Juvenile		
Administrative agency		
Unclassified		
Total final judgments		
Other mandatory cases:		
Disciplinary matters		
Original proceedings		
Interlocutory decisions		
Advisory opinions		
Total other mandatory		
Total mandatory cases		

DISCRETIONARY JURISDICTION:
- Petitions of final judgment:
  - Civil
  - Criminal
  - Juvenile
  - Administrative agency
  - Unclassified
- Total final judgments

- Other discretionary petitions:
  - Disciplinary matters
  - Original proceedings
  - Interlocutory decisions
  - Advisory opinions
- Total other discretionary

Total discretionary cases

Grand total cases

Number of supplemental judge/justices
Number of independent appellate courts at this level

MANNER OF DISPOSITION

Pre-argument disposition (dismissed/withdrawn/settled)
Signed opinion
Per curiam opinion
Decision without opinion (memo/order)
Transferred
Other

TYPE OF DECISION IN MANDATORY CASES/GRANTED PETITIONS OF FINAL JUDGMENT

Opinions:	Total decisions:
Affirmed	Affirmed
Modified	Modified
Reversed	Reversed
Mixed	Mixed
Dismissed	Dismissed
Other	Other

Prototype of State Trial Court Statistical Profile

State Name, Court Name
Court of general jurisdiction or court of limited jurisdiction
Number of circuits or districts, number of judges
Total population

	Filed	Disposed
CIVIL:		
Tort:		
Auto tort		
Product liability		
Medical malpractice		
Unclassified tort		
Miscellaneous tort		
Total Tort		
Contract		
Real property rights		
Small claims		
Domestic relations:		
Marriage dissolution		
Support/custody		
URESA		
Adoption		
Paternity		
Miscellaneous		
Unclassified		
Total domestic relations		
Estate:		
Probate/wills/intestate		
Guardianship/conservatorship/trusteeship		
Miscellaneous estate		
Unclassified estate		
Total estate		
Mental health		
Appeal:		
Appeal of administrative agency case		
Appeal of trial court case		
Total civil appeals		
Miscellaneous civil		
Unclassified civil		
Total civil		

Prototype of State Trial Court Statistical Profile (continued)

	Filed	Disposed
CRIMINAL:		
Felony		
Misdemeanor		
DWI/DUI		
Appeal		
Miscellaneous criminal		
Unclassified criminal		
Total Criminal		
TRAFFIC/OTHER VIOLATION:		
Moving traffic violation		
Ordinance violation		
Parking violation		
Miscellaneous traffic		
Unclassified traffic		
Total traffic/other violation		
JUVENILE:		
Criminal-type petition		
Status offense		
Child-victim petition		
Miscellaneous juvenile		
Unclassified juvenile		
Total juvenile		
Grand total cases		
Drug cases		
OTHER PROCEEDINGS:		
Postconviction remedy		
Preliminary hearings		
Sentence review only		
Extraordinary writs		
Total other proceedings		

APPENDIX D

STATE POPULATIONS

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Resident Population, 1989

State or territory	1989 Juvenile	1989 Adult	1989 Total
	Population (in thousands)		
Alabama	1,108	3,011	4,119
Alaska	165	362	527
Arizona	982	2,575	3,557
Arkansas	650	1,757	2,407
California	7,714	21,350	29,064
Colorado	864	2,452	3,316
Connecticut	759	2,480	3,239
Delaware	168	504	672
District of Columbia	139	465	604
Florida	2,872	9,799	12,671
Georgia	1,797	4,639	6,436
Hawaii	288	824	1,112
Idaho	304	710	1,014
Illinois	2,980	8,678	11,658
Indiana	1,460	4,133	5,593
Iowa	708	2,130	2,838
Kansas	659	1,854	2,513
Kentucky	966	2,761	3,727
Louisiana	1,272	3,110	4,383
Maine	305	917	1,222
Maryland	1,161	3,533	4,694
Massachusetts	1,337	4,575	5,912
Michigan	2,445	6,829	9,274
Minnesota	1,129	3,223	4,352
Mississippi	769	1,852	2,621
Missouri	1,306	3,854	5,160
Montana	217	588	805
Nebraska	424	1,187	1,611
Nevada	277	832	1,109
New Hampshire	279	827	1,106
New Jersey	1,833	5,903	7,736
New Mexico	454	1,074	1,528
New York	4,350	13,600	17,950
North Carolina	1,642	4,928	6,570
North Dakota	179	482	661
Ohio	2,818	8,090	10,908
Oklahoma	853	2,370	3,223
Oregon	697	2,123	2,820
Pennsylvania	2,840	9,199	12,039
Puerto Rico	1,233	2,058	3,291
Rhode Island	231	765	996
South Carolina	955	2,557	3,512
South Dakota	196	520	716
Tennessee	1,255	3,684	4,939
Texas	4,952	12,039	16,991
Utah	631	1,076	1,707
Vermont	141	425	566
Virginia	1,482	4,615	6,097
Washington	1,216	3,544	4,760
West Virginia	463	1,394	1,857
Wisconsin	1,255	3,612	4,867
Wyoming	136	338	474

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Series P-25, No. 1058, March 1990.

Total State Population for Trend Tables, 1984-89

State or territory	Population (in thousands) 1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Alabama	3,990	4,021	4,053	4,083	4,103	4,119
Alaska	500	521	533	525	523	527
Arizona	3,053	3,187	3,319	3,386	3,489	3,557
Arkansas	2,349	2,359	2,372	2,388	2,394	2,407
California	25,622	26,365	26,981	27,663	28,315	29,064
Colorado	3,178	3,231	3,267	3,296	3,301	3,316
Connecticut	3,154	3,174	3,189	3,211	3,235	3,239
Delaware	613	622	633	644	660	672
District of Columbia	623	626	625	622	618	604
Florida	10,976	11,366	11,675	12,023	12,335	12,671
Georgia	5,837	5,976	6,104	6,222	6,342	6,436
Hawaii	1,039	1,054	1,063	1,083	1,099	1,112
Idaho	1,001	1,005	1,002	998	1,003	1,014
Illinois	11,511	11,535	11,551	11,582	11,612	11,658
Indiana	5,498	5,499	5,503	5,531	5,555	5,593
Iowa	2,910	2,884	2,850	2,834	2,834	2,838
Kansas	2,438	2,450	2,460	2,476	2,495	2,513
Kentucky	3,723	3,726	3,729	3,727	3,726	3,727
Louisiana	4,462	4,481	4,502	4,461	4,407	4,383
Maine	1,156	1,164	1,173	1,187	1,205	1,222
Maryland	4,349	4,392	4,463	4,535	4,624	4,694
Massachusetts	5,798	5,822	5,832	5,855	5,888	5,912
Michigan	9,075	9,088	9,144	9,200	9,239	9,274
Minnesota	4,162	4,193	4,214	4,246	4,307	4,352
Mississippi	2,598	2,613	2,625	2,625	2,620	2,621
Missouri	5,008	5,029	5,066	5,103	5,142	5,160
Montana	824	826	819	809	805	805
Nebraska	1,606	1,606	1,597	1,594	1,602	1,611
Nevada	911	936	964	1,007	1,054	1,109
New Hampshire	977	998	1,027	1,057	1,086	1,106
New Jersey	7,515	7,562	7,620	7,672	7,720	7,736
New Mexico	1,424	1,450	1,479	1,500	1,506	1,528
New York	17,735	17,783	17,772	17,825	17,910	17,950
North Carolina	6,165	6,255	6,334	6,413	6,490	6,570
North Dakota	686	685	679	672	667	661
Ohio	10,752	10,744	10,753	10,784	10,855	10,908
Oklahoma	3,298	3,301	3,305	3,272	3,241	3,223
Oregon	2,674	2,687	2,698	2,724	2,766	2,820
Pennsylvania	11,901	11,853	11,888	11,936	12,001	12,039
Puerto Rico	3,267	3,267	3,267	3,274	3,294	3,291
Rhode Island	962	968	975	986	993	996
South Carolina	3,300	3,347	3,376	3,425	3,471	3,512
South Dakota	706	708	708	709	713	716
Tennessee	4,717	4,762	4,803	4,855	4,896	4,939
Texas	15,989	16,370	16,685	16,789	16,840	16,991
Utah	1,652	1,645	1,665	1,680	1,688	1,707
Vermont	530	535	541	548	557	566
Virginia	5,636	5,706	5,787	5,904	6,016	6,097
Washington	4,349	4,409	4,463	4,538	4,648	4,760
West Virginia	1,952	1,936	1,919	1,897	1,876	1,857
Wisconsin	4,766	4,775	4,785	4,807	4,854	4,867
Wyoming	511	509	507	490	479	474

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Series P-25, No. 1058, March, 1990.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS FROM THE COURT STATISTICS PROJECT

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The following publications are available from the National Center for State Courts, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8798:

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Reports 1976-1979

Each of these four volumes (1976-1979) has available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts. 1980-1984, paperback, $3.00 each volume, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1980

Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1984, 496 pages, paperback, $4.50, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1981

The 1981 Report is out of print. Photocopies are available from the Court Statistics Project.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1984

Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1986, 276 pages, 25 oz., paperback, $6.25, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1985

Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1987, 312 pages, 28 oz., paperback, $6.25, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1986

Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1988, 278 pages, 24 oz., paperback, $6.95, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1987

Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1989, 266 pages, 21 oz., paperback, $6.95, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1988

Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1990, 306 pages, 32 oz., paperback, $6.95, plus shipping.

Court Case Management Information Systems Manual

This manual reviews local and statewide case management information requirements and presents sets of model data elements, data collection forms and case management output reports for each level of court. 1983, 342 pages, 29 oz., paperback, $15.00, plus shipping.

The Business of State Trial Courts

Defining courts business as cases filed, serious cases, and contested cases, this monograph tests six myths about courts, their work and decisions. 1983, 158 pages, 14 oz., paperback. Single copies are available free of charge.

State Court Organization 1987

Updates the 1980 reference guide to the organization and practices of all state appellate and trial courts. 1988, 420 pages, 43 oz., paperback, $9.95, plus shipping.

State Court Model Annual Report

Suggested formats to be used in preparing state court annual reports. Discusses topics to be considered for inclusion in court reports. 1980, 88 pages. Single copies are available through the National Center for State Courts library.

1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting

Contains information on the organizations, jurisdiction, and time standards in the state appellate courts. 1985, 117 pages. Single copies are available for loan through the National Center for State Courts library.

State Court Model Statistical Dictionary, 1989

Contains definitions of terms used to classify and count court caseload. Gives the court statistical usage for each term. Merges the 1980 edition and 1984 *Supplement*, defines new terms. 1989, 90 pages, 11 oz., paperback, $4.50, plus shipping.

National Center for State Courts

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